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USSR Report

MILITARY AFFAIRS

No. 1737



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ARMED FORCES

MAR AVN G. SKORIKOV, AIR FORCE MAIN STAFF CHIEF, ON NEED FOR MILITARY TRAINING

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 9, Sep 82 (signed to press 23 Aug 82) pp 2-3

[Article by Mar Avn G. Skorikov, chief of the Air Force Main Staff: "Lenin Passed On To Us: Study Military Affairs Properly"]

[Text] Every day the radio, television and newspapers bring us additional new reports on preparations by the NATO countries, particularly the United States, for a nuclear attack on the USSR and the nations of the socialist community. The aggressive forces of imperialism are blatantly pursuing a course of policy aimed at achieving military superiority. They are increasing military expenditures on a vast scale. An alliance between the United States, Japan, and China is being formed on an anti-Soviet foundation. Israel, with U.S. support, is waging an aggressive war against Lebanon and the Palestinian people.

In these conditions our party is taking the necessary measures to avert a threat to all mankind. As was stated at the 26th CPSU Congress, we intend to concentrate all our energies in two interlinked areas: building communism, and strengthening peace. V. I. Lenin's behests pertaining to the need to study military affairs properly, maintaining at a proper level the defense might of the Soviet State and the combat readiness of the Armed Forces are being carried out unswervingly and consistently.

The Air Force is equipped with modern aviation systems, including multirole aircraft with variable-sweep wing and helicopter gunships. They are equipped with a great variety of radioelectronic instrumentation, complex automatic controls, crew life support gear, and missile-cannon armament. But no matter how great the military-technical capabilities of aviation, its main strength lies in the people who operate the combat equipment and weapons. The combat potential of the Soviet Armed Forces comprises a solid fusion of a high level of technical equipment, military expertise, and indomitable morale.

Consequently, combat potential is directly dependent on our degree of training and on the level of our military proficiency. This was also the case during the Great Patriotic War. The high degree of combat proficiency of Soviet fighting men was one of the most important sources of our victory. In his memoirs entitled "Malaya Zemlya," Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev writes: "Added to the enthusiastic energy, great courage and patriotism of the fighting men was coolness, maturity, intelligent calculation, the ability to fight, and all these things taken together brought us to victory."

One feels admiration for the skillful actions of the noncommissioned officers in the war. Some of them took to the air to attack the enemy, while others, working in difficult conditions, readied the combat equipment and weapons on the ground, ensuring success in the air.

For example, the aircrews of the 60th Bomber Regiment attacked an enemy tank column. Over the target our aircraft were attacked by a large group of Messerschmitts. The aircraft in which Sgt I. Tupikin was a gunner took a hit, and the aircraft, going out of control, began to plunge earthward. Tupikin knew his job well and immediately realized that the elevator control cables, which ran past his gunner position, had been severed. He grabbed the severed cable ends and, exerting an incredible physical effort, joined them. The commander felt tension on the controls, brought the aircraft to level flight, and rejoined his group. Thus Sgt I. Tupikin saved the crew from death and ensured accomplishment of the combat mission. During the war he flew 265 combat sorties and was personally credited with five downed enemy aircraft.

F. de Mauffre, former pilot in the Normandy-Neman Air Regiment, writes: "In less than a single night, with a strong wind blowing, and unable to work in gloves, three Russian mechanics replaced a 1200 horsepower motor. I would like to achieve the grandeur of these people."

The combat experience of the war has retained its significance today as well. The scientific and technological revolution in military affairs, however, and the changes it has evoked, in particular the development of new types of combat equipment and weapons and the improved general educational level of servicemen, have substantially altered demands on the professional and commander training of military cadres.

What does the Leninist demand to study military affairs properly mean today? It means that each and every warrant officer, noncommissioned officer and enlisted man must gain total mastery of the equipment and weapons entrusted to him, must know how to use them in combat, and must know the adversary's strong and weak points. This requires hard work at the airfield, in the classroom, in the air, and at training exercises. Hard work and application on the job constitute an expression of faithfulness to Lenin's behests and to one's constitutional duty.

The combat readiness and fighting efficiency of Air Force units and subunits depends in large measure on the professional level of proficiency of warrant officers, their organization and military discipline, and their ability to lead subordinate noncommissioned officers and enlisted personnel of various aviation MOS, their ability to teach and indoctrinate them. These tasks are being successfully accomplished by the men of the guards aviation regiment who initiated socialist competition in the Air Force to honor in a worthy manner the 60th anniversary of establishment of the USSR. Their main efforts are concentrated on an all-out increase in vigilance and continuous readiness for action in any and all air and ground situation conditions. The time required to make subunits combat ready is being shortened by means of more thorough study of aircraft and weapons, skillful mastery of this equipment, improved organization of the labor of military personnel, and better proficiency on the part of aircrews, technical teams and ground crews. At the final stage of the

training year the initiative pioneers will have a rate of 80 percent improved proficiency rating technicians and mechanics, 90 percent excellent-rated technical groups and crews, and more than 70 percent excellent-rated aircraft. All this is not easily achieved. Through the efforts of commanders, party and Komsomol organizations, favorable conditions have been created for fully meeting ambitious socialist pledges. Soon the military aviators will be able to report to the homeland that they have kept their promise.

Many Air Force warrant officers conscientiously carry out the tasks assigned to them in the area of readying combat and special equipment, weapons and ammunition. The overwhelming majority are meeting the demands specified at the Armed Forces Conference of Warrant Officers (1973), are working hard to master the complex military equipment and modes of its utilization, and are high proficiency-rating specialists and genuine experts in military affairs. It would be appropriate to cite as an example party member and servicing group technician WO M. P'kov. He is distinguished by a deeply conscientious attitude toward his professional and party duties as well as excellent knowledge of his equipment. He is a specialist 1st class and shares his know-how and practical skills with others. He performs his tasks efficiently, diligently, with excellent quality, and is a party group organizer and Komsomol committee member.

Equally outstanding is WO I. Lebedev, a senior aerial gunner, party member and agitator. He has a consummate mastery of his weapon and performs all flight assignments excellently. He is constantly passing on to the younger aerial gunners his experience in working in the air and on the ground and his excellent skill in operating the weapons of a modern bomber. WOs M. Bykov and I. Lebedev were awarded the "For Distinguished Military Service" medal, 2nd Class, for exemplary performance of assigned tasks at the "West-81" exercise.

Platoon commander Senior WO V. Kabanov enjoys deserved respect and authority. His subunit, in which 70 percent of the men are excellent rated, holds a leading position in the unit. V. Kabanov himself has been elected party organization secretary.

The following statement made by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev applies in full measure to such warrant officers: "Today the Soviet specialist is a person who possesses a good mastery of the fundamentals of Marxist-Leninist teaching, who clearly sees the political goals of the party and country, who possesses scientific and practical training, and who has a consummate mastery of his area of specialization. The Soviet specialist today is a skilled organizer, capable of applying in a practical manner the principles of scientific organization of labor. He has the ability to work with others, values collective experience, heeds the opinion of his comrades, and critically appraises that which has been achieved. And, finally, today's specialist is a person of a high degree of culture, of broad erudition, in short a genuine intellectual of the new, socialist society."

Of course it is a difficult matter to master complex modern equipment; one must within a short period of time acquire a large volume of knowledge and master practical skills. But everyone can accomplish this. And a reliable

means here is a continuous striving to improve the quality of each and every class, each and every training drill. Much here depends on the diligence and initiative of the warrant officers. They bear responsibility for their own occupational proficiency and for training their subordinates.

The warrant officer must constantly think about his image, which is inseparably linked with his professional growth. There is a direct relationship here. The greater one's knowledge, the more solid the image of the commander -- a skilled, reliable defender of the homeland.

Studying military affairs properly means valuing training time. One must proceed thereby from the position that knowledge and ability may be put to a serious test at any time, for a practice alert may be followed by the real thing, and a routine aircraft mission may become a combat mission. There will be no time to make up for what has not yet been learned. Such harsh conditions are dictated to us by the international situation. It is therefore necessary beneficially to utilize the precious minutes of training time. Let each and every day, each and every hour bring genuine success, even if modest success, in one's development as a commander, in growth of one's military proficiency. If you proceed in this manner, it means that you correctly understand Lenin's behests to Soviet servicemen and today's party demands on the Armed Forces.

It should be a matter of honor for each and every one of us to struggle persistently to carry out the demands of the USSR minister of defense stated in his report at the Armed Forces Conference of Secretaries of Primary Party Organizations. MSU D. F. Ustinov stressed the particular importance of a principle which has been tested and proven by history -- teach troops that which they need in war. This means that in each and every training class, at each and every drill, and when readying equipment for operation one must proceed from the demands of today's combat, not tolerating unnecessary simplification, unnecessary relaxation of demands, or the slightest inefficiency.

To study military affairs properly means not resting on one's laurels but continuously moving forward. Recent parting words spoken by the USSR minister of defense to the graduates of service academies also apply in full measure to warrant officers: "In teaching your subordinates, you yourselves should tirelessly continue learning. Never be satisfied with what has been achieved; innovatively apply combat experience and the experience of older comrades."

Deserving of praise in connection with this is the initiative of the aviator-warrant officers who made an appeal on the pages of the magazine ZNAMENOSETS to commence competition to improve one's proficiency rating and for everyone to reach the highest, master proficiency rating. This appeal reflects the demands of the time. And therefore it has been given support by the warrant officers of the other branches of service. Necessary for achieving this goal are harmonious efforts and the active support of commanders, party and Komsomol organizations. And mutual assistance is essential here. It is a matter of honor for each and every veteran warrant officer to help his younger comrade more rapidly master his occupational specialty. And of course it is intolerable when somebody tries to underscore his superiority in knowledge and is arrogant toward his colleagues. This is contrary to the established traditions of

friendship and military comradeship, and should be harshly condemned by the entire collective.

There should also be a demanding attitude toward those who promise a great deal when they made pledges but are in no hurry to carry out their promises. The training year will soon end, and the results of socialist competition will be totaled up. But in order to have better results, we must now give thought to those who are lagging. Some people should be helped, while others should be reminded of the folk saying: "Don't hurry with your tongue, don't do a laughable job." People should be reminded of their duties and the demands of their oath. It is the duty and honorable obligation of each and every individual fully to meet socialist pledges, to become excellent rated, to master a related occupational specialty, and to be a genuine expert in military affairs, for lagging even by one person is intolerable. As a rule personnel operate crew-served weapons. This means an increased responsibility on the part of each member of the collective for the level of his proficiency, so as not to let down his fellow soldiers at a moment of crisis. An error or inadvertence by even one man when working with a crew-served weapon is intolerable, since it can lead to casualties and failure to accomplish the combat mission.

To study military affairs properly means possessing good knowledge of and unswervingly carrying out the demands of military regulations, instructions and manuals. Improvement in combat skill and successful accomplishment of all tasks, both in peacetime and in time of war are inconceivable without this. Regulations and orders have the force of law, which must be carried out unquestioningly. This is a demand of the time. Warrant officers must constantly seek to ensure that this rule becomes the conviction of each and every NCO and enlisted man.

We must not forget that the equipment and weapons entrusted to us for defense of the homeland represent considerable material value. It is important constantly to care for them and maintain them in operational readiness. Follow-through plays a special role in this. It is necessary strictly to observe the rules and conditions of operating and maintaining equipment as specified by manuals and instructions. One must possess thorough knowledge of safety procedures in operating and servicing combat equipment and weapons. "Liberties" are intolerable here.

To carry out the behests of V. I. Lenin means to maintain a continuous state of combat readiness, to possess a high degree of political awareness, and thoroughly to understand one's personal responsibility for defense of the homeland. The importance of combat proficiency of servicemen as one of the basic factors in their readiness immediately to engage the enemy and defeat him has increased in present-day conditions.

The homeland and the party have entrusted us with the most important, the most precious thing -- defense of the homeland and the peaceful productive labor of the Soviet people. We have been given everything needed for this -- the most modern weapons and combat equipment. The inspiring ideas of Lenin and the Communist Party call upon us selflessly to carry out our military and constitutional duty. It has been solemnly proclaimed from the speaker's stand

at the 26th CPSU Congress, on behalf of each and every one of us: "Let our enemies know that the potent weapons which the homeland has entrusted to us are in reliable and skilled hands. Missile crewmen and motorized riflemen, tankers and artillerymen, aviators and seamen possess a consummate mastery of their first-class equipment and are working persistently to learn how to operate in the most complex combat situation, and are prepared to offer a devastating rebuff to any aggressor...."

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ARMED FORCES

NO DISCHARGE PAPERS ISSUED -- NCO FACES PROBLEMS

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 9, Sep 82 (signed to press 23 Aug 82) pp 18-19

[Article by ZNAMENOSETS correspondent Col V. Devin: "Responding in Kind...."]

[Text] The letter evoked sympathy for the author. And how could one not sympathize with a person who is the victim of injustice. And everything indicated that Vyacheslav Stepanenko, currently a reserve junior sergeant, was treated very unfairly in a certain unit. He was dismissed without cause from extended service, and they failed to issue him the prescribed documents. As a result he was without a full-time job, and thus was without means of support.

This was the way the situation was pictured in a letter which he wrote to the editors of ZNAMENOSETS.

A closer view revealed a different picture. Our sympathy diminished somewhat....

Our very first meetings with Stepanenko's former superiors, and our very first conversations cast doubt on the sincerity of the reserve junior sergeant. As it turns out, he was "asked" to leave the military by no means without cause. And it was far from sudden.

"He was dismissed from the service as an alcoholic," flatly stated political worker Maj Yu. Shapovalov.

Regimental party committee member Maj V. Fedorov also had unflattering things to say about Stepanenko.

Vyacheslav Stepanenko was enlisted as a senior cook in the winter of 1981. Tall, stately, with the bearing of a seafaring man, he made a good external impression and, as a diploma-holding cook with a wealth of experience, he inspired the hope that the quality of food preparation in the mess hall would improve with his arrival. These hopes were justified at first.

"For a certain period of time he worked diligently," related Maj M. Kovalenko, who had been the first to encourage the former submarine cook to sign up for another hitch in the military. "I praised him at conferences of rear services specialists.... But later Stepanenko developed a serious alcohol problem."

His record of service tells the story. Six disciplinary punishments within a short period of time. The senior cook received them chiefly due to his weakness for alcohol and a scornful attitude toward the demands of the military oath and regulations. For example, he repeatedly reported late for duty, and sometimes failed to appear at all. Once he went to another town on a personal matter without asking permission.

The greatest patience ultimately wears thin. His regimental superiors came to the end of theirs. Stepanenko was dismissed from the service into the reserves for actions doing discredit to the uniform. As we see, he was dismissed with full justification. This took place in July 1981. Almost a year had passed when we were introduced to the case, but Vyacheslav still had no identity card and had not registered at the military commissariat. He was kind of in limbo: he was long out of the military, but at the same time he was not quite a civilian. In any case, that was the way things looked from the outside.

It is no more than 15 minutes by car from regimental headquarters to the rayon military commissariat. I decided to find out first why the reserve junior sergeant had not been registered. So much time had passed!

Military commissariat official Maj F. Yermakov clearly spelled out to me the regulations pertaining to registration of persons discharged from military service. According to these regulations, Stepanenko was supposed to present his discharge papers and identity card at the military commissariat. He had failed to do so because he had not been issued them at his unit. His record of service contained no entry indicating extended service. The copy of the discharge order bore no official seal, and therefore was invalid.

"Technically he is still in the military," the military commissariat officers said in conclusion of our conversation, upon checking the former senior cook's file.

"But you can obtain an identity card right now at the rayon police station," the military commissar told Vyacheslav in my presence, and added: "You could have obtained it long ago."

My visit to the military commissariat raised additional questions, the answers to which I would have to return to the regiment to obtain. But unfortunately it was no easy matter to find answers. For example, I was unable to establish the reason why extended-service Junior Sergeant Stepanenko had not been issued an identity card. At first they explained that it was because they had no identity card form and could not obtain any.

Capt V. Pilyushenok at combined unit headquarters took strong issue with this explanation: "We always have forms. If the people in the unit had asked, we would have immediately given them as many as they wanted."

They then pointed the finger at Stepanenko, who allegedly had stubbornly refused to submit the necessary photos. The photos had been submitted, however, but had been pigeonholed somewhere.

Maj E. Sarapul'tsev, who was immediately responsible for this work in the regiment, ultimately blamed everything on Sr Lt A. Pavlovskiy. The latter had stood in for Sarapul'tsev for a time. And either out of inexperience or negligence he had failed to prepare all the prescribed documents for Stepanenko.

I do not propose to judge whether all this is the truth: I was unable to talk to Pavlovskiy, since he was away from the unit. I did, however, discuss the matter in a fair amount of detail with other persons who had been involved in signing Stepanenko on for extended service and in dismissing him from the service. And I heard rather strange statements to say the least. For example: "They failed to issue him an identity card? Why does he need one?" Or: "They failed to have Stepanenko sign? Big deal...." (By "signature" they meant the written pledge signed by persons reenlisting for extended service).

Officer V. Sakovich considered the signature to be an unnecessary thing. But, came the rejoinder, the written pledge is prescribed by the order specifying the procedure of acceptance to extended service. Vladimir Andreyevich offered the vague defense: "There is a lot contained in orders...."

This unexpected statement showed, as it were, the erroneous position maintained by some of the officers here. They considered themselves entitled to interpret a guideline document as they saw fit, and yet, as they say, it is only one step from such an arbitrary interpretation to outright failure to meet the prescribed requirements.

The order mentioned above specifies in great detail what is to be done and how it is to be done in selection and subsequent formal enlistment of individuals wishing to sign up for extended service. It also specifies all documents which are to be drawn up.

In particular, a person wishing to reenlist for extended service must submit a character reference from his place of employment. Prior to enlistment in the regiment, Stepanenko had worked as a mechanic at the local Voyentorg, but for some reason he had submitted a character reference from a motor transport facility a thousand kilometers away. Nobody took notice of this, however. They thought about this fact much later. I was witness to a telephone conversation between Comrade Sakovich and an official at the Voyentorg [PX, commissary], where Vyacheslav was not remembered in the best light. I clearly recall how Vladimir Andreyevich was upset, how he regretted that he had not called earlier....

It was now obvious why Stepanenko had preferred not to obtain a character reference from the PX.

I thought about how many other problems the regimental authorities could have avoided if they had strictly and precisely observed the procedures, mandatory for all, of acceptance and discharge of persons enlisting for extended service. I am also convinced that Stepanenko would then not have any reason for complaint, to accuse the regimental authorities of casting him to the winds. Nobody had found the time even to have a brief discussion with him prior to discharging him from the military. And yet the order states that subunit

commanders (company commanders and higher) shall personally interview all extended-service personnel who are being processed for discharge from active service.

I shall also state that I ascertained that Vyacheslav Stepanenko had never even been officially notified of his military discharge order.

All this created the impression of a lack of seriousness, of a cavalier attitude, both in the way the former navyman was enlisted to extended service and how he was discharged. If these people had treated more seriously the enlistment of Stepanenko into the regiment, he might have had a more serious attitude toward his job and had a more responsible attitude toward his actions, which is highly characteristic of a real military man. But essentially Vyacheslav did not feel that he was a military man. And perhaps he was unable to do so, since almost 3 months after he enlisted in the regiment he was still forced to report for duty in civilian clothing. The regimental supply people took their time about clothing this new man, claiming they were out of his size.... In short, he responded in kind.

...I arrived in the midst of a legal action instituted by Stepanenko. Not having received all the prescribed documents upon discharge into the reserve, and not having made much of an effort to obtain them (remember what the military commissar said about the identify card), he began demanding that he be compensated for his "forced" unemployment, as he stated in his letter. The regiment's view was that his complaint was misdirected, since Stepanenko had been removed from his unit's rolls by an order dated 21 July 1981. He then took his case to the judge advocate's office and wrote the editors.

His wife was actively involved in this litigation. When we met she assured us that she would prevail, that she would see justice done against her husband's former superiors as well as against the magazine correspondent who had refused to support the "suit" as regards monetary compensation.

I already knew that Stepanenko had long since gotten a job in the apartment house office headed by his father-in-law. Therefore there had been no "forced unemployment."

In my opinion another point should be stressed here. First of all, that cavalier handling of documents regulating military service should not be tolerated.

Such treatment is always fraught with unpleasant consequences. It does detriment to the cause of indoctrination of military personnel, undermines faith in the rules and regulations established in our military, and can cause doubts as to the legality of a superior's actions. This is inalterably borne in mind by foresighted officials, who do not depart by one iota in their daily activities from the letter and spirit of military laws. By personal example they confirm their intolerance toward the slightest deviation from that which is spelled out in orders and regulations. And if they had acted in this manner in the regiment in question, certain individuals would not be forced to have belated regrets about what happened. Let us hope that the experience of enlisting V. Stepanenko to and dismissing him from extended service will serve them as a good lesson for the future.

...I am once again reading through the order specifying the procedure of selecting candidates for enlistment to extended service. And I mentally note to myself: each and every line is permeated with concern to ensure that worthy **cadres** are added to our military ranks. Persons for whom military service is a career thing, who are prepared to give all they have. And each and every line has been tested and verified by many years of practical experience and should under no circumstances be ignored. Otherwise there will inevitably occur errors, which help casual individuals make their way into extended service who have no place in the Soviet Armed Forces.

And for this reason it is so important that persons in authority who have the power to accept extended-service enlistments utilize this authority in precise conformity with present requirements.

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ARMED FORCES

POLITICAL LECTURE ON REPUBLICS DEVELOPMENT POLICY

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 9, Sep 82 (signed to press 23 Aug 82) pp 22-24

[Article by Docent and Candidate of Historical Sciences Col M. Pletushkov: "Union Indestructible of Free Republics"; passages rendered in all capital letters printed in boldface in source]

[Text] In December the Soviet people will be honoring an important date -- the 60th anniversary of the USSR, the world's first unified multinational worker and peasant state. "THE BIRTH OF THE USSR WAS A RESULT OF THE VICTORIOUS GREAT OCTOBER SOCIALIST REVOLUTION," states the CPSU Central Committee decree entitled "On the 60th Anniversary of Establishment of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics." "October smashed the chains of social and national oppression and raised up all the peoples of our country to independent, historic achievement."

The current political instruction topic -- "UNION INDESTRUCTIBLE OF FREE REPUBLICS" -- aims at helping warrant officers gain a deeper understanding of Marxist-Leninist teaching on the nationalities question, the world-historic significance of establishment of the Soviet Union, their tasks pertaining to further improvement of ideological-political, patriotic and internationalist indoctrination of servicemen, and their class conditioning. Time allocated for study -- 10 hours: 4 hours for lecture, 2 hours for independent study, and 4 hours for a seminar. It is recommended that the following topic items be covered in the lecture:

1. FORMATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOVIET UNION -- CONTINUATION OF THE CAUSE OF THE GREAT OCTOBER REVOLUTION.

2. THE 26TH CPSU CONGRESS ON FURTHER STRENGTHENING OF THE UNITY OF OUR COUNTRY'S PEOPLES.

3. EMBODIMENT OF LENINIST PRINCIPLES OF NATIONALITIES POLICY IN ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE USSR ARMED FORCES.

1. THE VICTORY OF THE GREAT OCTOBER REVOLUTION constituted the main political condition for implementation of radical socioeconomic reforms, formation of Soviet republics, and implementation of Lenin's program on the nationalities question. The essence of this program is the right of nations to self-determination, full equality before the law of all peoples, large and small, and unification of the workers and peasants of all nationalities and ethnic groups in the struggle for socialism.

V. I. Lenin examined the nationalities question in an inseparable link with the class struggle of the toiler masses. "We are formulating our nationalities program from the standpoint of the proletariat," stated Vladimir Il'ich. After the agrarian question, the party leader noted, the nationalities question is of particular importance in Russia's national affairs. Further developing the idea incorporated in this plan, V. I. Lenin stated: "We want a VOLUNTARY union of nations -- a union which would not permit any coercion by one nation over another -- a union which would be grounded on total trust, on a clear awareness of fraternal unity, on entirely voluntary consent."

An end to ethnic oppression and establishment of equality and fraternal friendship among peoples is one of the general laws and patterns of the socialist revolution and the building of socialism in a multinational state. The first documents of Soviet rule, adopted at the initiative of V. I. Lenin, proclaimed the equality and sovereignty of the peoples of Russia, their right to free self-determination, including the right of secession and the forming of independent states, the abolishment of any and all national and national-religious privileges and restrictions, and free development of national minorities and ethnic groups populating the territory of Russia.

The government did not limit itself merely to a declaration acknowledging the sovereignty and equality of all peoples under the law. At the end of 1917 a decree was issued recognizing the political independence of the Ukraine and its right either totally to separate from Russia or to enter into negotiations with the USSR on a federal alliance. The independence and right to self-determination of Finland, Armenia, Lithuania, Estonia, Latvia, and Belorussia were recognized.

The Second All-Russian Congress of Soviets in October 1917 proclaimed establishment of the RSFSR -- a federation based on the territorial autonomy of nations. At the moment of establishment of the USSR, it contained 10 autonomous republics and 11 autonomous oblasts. "Being the first multinational Soviet state," notes the CPSU Central Committee decree of 19 February 1982, "the RSFSR was a prototype of the USSR. The Russian people, in spite of difficulties and privations, gave selfless assistance to the other peoples in this country in defending their revolutionary achievements and made an inestimable contribution toward overcoming the backwardness of the former ethnic outlying regions."

Soviet rule was established in the Ukraine in December 1917, in Belorussia in January 1919, in Azerbaijan and Armenia in April and November 1920, and in Georgia in February 1921. The Transcaucasian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic, which contained the Azerbaijan, Armenian, and Georgian republics, was formed in 1922. This unification was dictated by the complicated situation in Transcaucasia: the imperialists had not abandoned hopes of wresting it from the Soviet State.

Deeply comprehending the root commonality of the political, military, economic and other interests of the liberated peoples, V. I. Lenin persuasively demonstrated that without a close union of Soviet republics it would be impossible to defend their existence in the face of world imperialism, to rebuild their war-demolished productive resources, to build a unified socialist economy,

and to ensure growth of worker prosperity and comprehensive development of the culture of all the country's nationalities and ethnic groups. In October 1922 a Plenum of the Central Committee of the Russian Communist Party (of Bolsheviks) issued the following decree on the basis of Lenin's instructions: "A treaty between the Ukraine, Belorussia, the Federation of Transcaucasian Republics and RSFSR agreeing to their unification into a Union of Socialist Soviet Republics, with each of them retaining the right of free secession from the Union, shall be acknowledged essential." The First All-Union Congress of Soviets, held on 30 December 1922, ratified the Declaration and Treaty on Establishment of the USSR.

For the first time in the history of mankind, the multinational composition of a state became transformed from a factor of weakness, as had been the case in conditions of exploitation and oppression, into a factor of strength and might. Today the USSR contains 53 national states and ethnic-political units, including 15 union and 20 autonomous republics, 8 autonomous oblasts, and 10 national districts. More than 120 different nationalities and ethnic groups are working shoulder to shoulder in the Soviet Union, building a Communist society.

And we are justly proud of this. The United States, although it calls itself a federal state, contains no ethnic political entities or autonomous ethnic units. Only one official language -- English -- is used in government establishments and taught in the schools. Ethnic minorities can have their own ethnic schools only at their own expense. In addition, outright segregation of the Negro and nonwhite population prevails in the United States -- one of the barbarous inventions of U.S. ethnic policy. Negroes, for example, comprise 11 percent of that country's population, but an absolute majority of poor people are black. A total of 800,000 Indians live in poverty on reservations. Prior to the arrival of Europeans, 15 million native Americans inhabited the territory of what is today the United States, while today only a few hundred thousand remain. British imperialism has for many years been waging a war against the people of Northern Ireland. Interethnic and racial clashes occur in Belgium, Spain, Canada, the Republic of South Africa, and other capitalist countries. The Soviet State was the first to demonstrate with practical deeds the truth of the thesis of K. Marx and F. Engels that antagonism between nations disappears with elimination of antagonism between classes. Peoples struggling for their liberation see not the imperialist powers but the Soviet Union as their champion and their support, an example for themselves to follow.

Soon after the end of the 10th Party Congress V. I. Lenin wrote that a patriarchal, semibarbarian and the most completely barbarian society reigned to the north of Vologda, to the southeast of Rostov-na-Donu and Saratov, to the south of Orenburg and Omsk, and to the north of Tomsk. The 26th CPSU Congress stressed that today there no longer exist any backward ethnic hinterlands. "These past 60 years have been marked by swift socioeconomic development of the Soviet Union," states the CPSU Central Committee decree on the 60th anniversary of establishment of the USSR. In 1981 produced national income exceeded by 167-fold the 1922 level, while industrial output volume increased 514-fold during this period. The USSR's share of world industrial production has risen from 1 percent in 1922 to 20 percent today.

The economies of all the republics are growing rapidly in our amicable family of peoples. Today the industry of the RSFSR produces in two days as much as it produced in an entire year in prerevolutionary Russia. A total of 42 million hectares of virgin and fallow land, including 25 million hectares in the Kazakh SSR, have been brought into production through the unified efforts of Soviet citizens. More than 40 peoples in this country have acquired their own written language.

Establishment of the USSR is one of the greatest achievements of the Leninist party, living embodiment of the Leninist principles of nationalities policy.

2. BUILDING OF A SOCIETY OF MATURE SOCIALISM and transition to the further building of communism mark a new stage in the development of ethnic relations in our country. The party's course of policy, as noted at the 26th CPSU Congress, prescribes growth in the material and spiritual potential of each republic, and at the same time its maximum utilization for harmonious development of the entire country. The party sees in this an essential condition for progress by Soviet society, strengthening of the economic and defense might of the USSR, and improvement in worker living standards.

The CPSU Program and policy on the nationalities question foreordained the flourishing and drawing together of every nationality and ethnic group which, as Comrade L. I. Brezhnev notes, permeates all facets of our society. The party, expressing the will of the entire people, defines the main task of all nationalities and the contribution of each to the campaign to accomplish this task, establishes the concrete forms of cooperation, monitors implementation of the principle of the primacy of common interests, prevents ignoring and exaggeration of specific national features, and ensures mobilization of the masses for combating survivals of bourgeois nationalism.

Stressing the decisive significance of the economic factor in development of a nation and its structure, K. Marx and F. Engels wrote that not only the relationship of one nation to another but also the entire internal structure of the nation proper depends on the degree of development of its production and its internal and external intercourse. Today the economy of the USSR is a unified economic complex, that foundation which unites the interests of all nationalities. Division of labor on the national level makes it possible efficiently, taking into consideration the interests of the nation as a whole, to develop the economy of each republic and to ensure efficient distribution and functioning of productive resources at the level of each region and the country as a whole.

The unified national economic complex is characterized by equalization of the level of economic development of all the union republics. Modern multibranch industry and large-scale agricultural production have been established in each and every one of them. Today we can state that the Soviet republics have reached an approximately equal level of per capita generation of national income and that labor productivity and technical equipment of the economy indices have converged. Growth in the size of the worker class is characteristic of our entire nation, but is particularly substantial in Central Asia and Kazakhstan. The 1959 and 1970 population censuses indicated an increase from 29.1 to 42 percent for the Tajik SSR, from 37.3 to 41.2 percent for the

Turkmen SSR, from 39.7 to 53.6 percent for the Kirghiz SSR, from 39.2 to 45.7 percent for the Uzbek SSR, and from 58.4 to 66.3 percent for the Kazakh SSR. We can now state with full justification that Lenin's statement that peasants in a state of semifeudal dependence can do an excellent job of assimilating the idea of Soviet organization and implement it in a practical manner has come to pass. Just as V. I. Lenin foresaw, all the miracles of technology and cultural achievements have become the property of all the people. Today there is no large production facility, either under construction or in operation, at which representatives of many ethnic groups are not working side by side. The Kama Truck Plant was built by specialists of 70 different nationalities. A total of 200 Soviet cities sent equipment for construction of the Karakum Canal imeni V. I. Lenin. Young people of 44 different nationalities are working on the Baikal-Amur Mainline.

In the current five-year plan the industry of Belorussia, Uzbekistan, Moldavia, and the Transcaucasian republics is targeted to grow at the most rapid rate. The economy of each republic occupies an important place in societal division of labor and is making an increasingly more substantial contribution to this country's national wealth. Moldavia, for example, comprises only 0.3 percent of the territory of the Soviet Union and its population comprises one and a half percent of the population of the USSR, but it produces 30 percent of all the grapes grown in this country, 12 percent of the fruit, and 10 percent of canned fruit and vegetables.

Organically linked with implementation of Lenin's nationalities policy, states the CPSU Central Committee decree entitled "On the 60th Anniversary of Establishment of the USSR," are profound changes in the social countenance, culture, and in the living conditions of the kolkhoz peasantry of the Soviet republics. The CPSU Central Committee Plenum held in May ratified the USSR Food Program for the period up to 1990, formulated in conformity with the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and constituting a most important component part of party economic strategy for the coming decade. Considerable material-technical and financial resources are being allocated for its implementation. Capital investment in agriculture during the 11th Five-Year Plan, for example, is specified at 189.6 billion rubles, while a little more than 48 billion rubles was allocated for these purposes in the 7th Five-Year Plan. In the coming decade farms will receive approximately 3,780,000 tractors, 1,170,000 grain combine harvesters, and more than 3 million trucks. In 1990 agriculture will receive 210-235 billion kilowatt hours of electric power.

All union republics are to make a maximum contribution to implementation of the Food Program. The May (1982) CPSU Central Committee Plenum specified concrete tasks for each of them in producing agricultural products and specified the ways to accomplish these tasks. The measures devised by the party should improve and normalize the economic situation in the village and ensure further growth in worker living standards and progress by Soviet society along the road to communism.

The greater the prosperity of our country's peoples, the closer their convergence. Economic prosperity and flourishing of the culture of all peoples of the USSR are achieved in the process of the drawing together of socialist nations, since in building communism they become mutually enriched with

experience in constructive activities, which promotes the success of the common cause and acceleration of the pace of progress. In short, in conditions of developed socialism nations prosper due to their drawing together, while drawing together takes place as a result of their flourishing.

The process of strengthening the unity of nationalities and ethnic groups is taking place intensively in all areas of our society. This is manifested very vividly, for example, in the activities of the soviets. A total of 62 nationalities and ethnic groups are represented in the USSR Supreme Soviet. Deputies of 71 different nationalities have been elected to the supreme soviets of the union and autonomous republics. Also important is the following fact: there are 66.3 million families in the USSR, more than 14 percent of which are ethnically mixed. The number of interethnic marriages, however, is growing both nationwide and in each republic. At the beginning of the 1970's one out of every 10 marriages was mixed, while today it is one out of every seven. And the figure is one out of every five in Kazakhstan, Latvia, and in the Ukraine. Equalization of economic, sociopolitical and cultural level was a most important factor in such rapid and comprehensive advance by all Soviet republics. Active participation by the working people of multinational workforces in implementing the tasks of the 11th Five-Year Plan and the decisions of the May (1982) CPSU Central Committee Plenum will be another step on the road toward further drawing together of our socialist nations. A new community of people -- the Soviet people -- has taken shape during the years of building communism. And the Russian language, which has been voluntarily chosen by all our country's nationalities and ethnic groups as a common language of interethnic cooperation, has become a powerful instrument of intercommunication and cohesion of the peoples of the USSR, a means of bringing to them the finest achievements of Soviet and world culture.

3. IN CONFORMITY WITH LENINIST PRINCIPLES of nationalities policy, the Soviet Armed Forces were established from the very outset as a multinational military organization of a worker-peasant state. A socialist army, as V. I. Lenin defined it, is an army of the people, defender of the working people and their rule. The principles of socialism are dominant in it, while relations toward other peoples and countries are determined by the principle of proletarian internationalism.

Following establishment of the USSR, the functions of defense of the Soviet Union were handed over to the union government, and the military units of the republics to a common People's Commissariat of Defense. M. V. Frunze wrote in connection with this: "The Union of Soviet Republics is a union of working people of different nationalities. The Red Army, which is its expression, is not a national army -- it is also an alliance, but a fighting alliance, to which the working people of all our Soviet republics send their sons to receive military training and to stand guard over the Soviet land shoulder to shoulder, as a unified, firm wall."

The strength of unification of nationalities and ethnic groups and the monolithic nature of our Armed Forces were manifested with unprecedented forcefulness in the harsh period of the Great Patriotic War. Fighting men of all nationalities displayed models of courage and fearlessness throughout the war, in all battles, large and small. During the war years 11,603 men of 70 different nationalities were awarded the lofty title Hero of the Soviet Union.

In peacetime as well representatives of all Soviet peoples selflessly carry out their military duty, performing service united. Each military collective is a harmonious combat family in which personnel are indoctrinated in a spirit of brotherhood, solidarity, respect and military comradeship. This is fostered by our socialist way of life, by the entire structure of army and navy service, by standing alert duty, and by participation in the socialist competition which developed in the military in honor of the 60th anniversary of establishment of the USSR under the slogan "Reliable Defense of the Peaceful Labor of the Soviet People!"

"An indestructible commonality of interests, goals and ideals, coalescence of patriotic and internationalist accomplishments of urban and rural workers, army and navy personnel serve as a guarantee of further increase of the combat power and combat readiness of the Soviet Armed Forces and a guarantee of reliable defense of socialism and peace," stated USSR Minister of Defense MSU D. F. Ustinov.

Warrant officers should bear in mind that dissemination of the historic significance of the nationalities question in our country, the objective processes of further convergence of the peoples of the USSR, strengthening of their unity, and exposure of bourgeois falsifiers of CPSU nationalities policy is of great importance in forming Soviet patriotism and socialist internationalism in servicemen. The 26th CPSU Congress pointed to the necessity of combating both the ignoring of specific ethnic features and over-emphasis of ethnic differences. Proceeding from this position, warrant officers must consistently combine a respectful attitude toward the ethnic feelings and dignity of each serviceman with a campaign against such manifestations which are alien to us as chauvinism or nationalism, against any and all nationalistic prejudices. Indoctrinators of any category should constantly bear in mind that the problem of correctly combining the national and international will not lose its significance as long as ethnic differences exist, and they will remain for a long time to come, as V. I. Lenin stated, even following the victory of communism on a world scale.

Daily contact between servicemen of different nationalities does not per se, without proper ideological and political indoctrination work among personnel, lead to development of internationalist convictions in army and navy personnel. The ethnic peculiarities of servicemen are revealed in language, in individual manifestation of ethnic self-awareness, feelings, traditions, customs, etc. Particularly important in the spiritual life of servicemen are ethnic feelings, which frequently introduce a certain coloring into people's attitude and which, as V. I. Lenin stated, are always sensitive and easily injured. Hence Lenin's demand that one be exceptionally careful and considerate to them. Criticizing the autonomy plan, the party leader pointed out that nothing impedes the development and strengthening of proletarian class solidarity as ethnic injustice, and "offended" ethnic minorities are highly sensitive to the feeling of equality and to violation of this equality, even if unintentional, even as a joke.

In observing the equal rights of military personnel of all nationalities, warrant officers create favorable conditions for improving combat readiness, strengthening military discipline and order, while the men become convinced that

the main thing for an individual is not his ethnic affiliation but rather his military labor, his political, moral and military-professional qualities. If the requisite tactfulness, sensitivity and consideration are lacking in mutual relations with servicemen, vulnerability of ethnic feelings can create psychological barriers in performing job duties and in strengthening military comradeship. It also sometimes happens that unsuccessful personal contacts between military personnel of different nationalities frequently are carried over without justification into the area of ethnic relations. And this should be borne in mind when working with individual subordinates.

Knowledge of the law on the part of warrant officers plays an important role in this regard. Observance of laws and regulations strengthens military rule of law in subunits, creates barriers against law violations, and ensures genuinely humane, proper relations between military personnel. It is essential in daily practical activities to prevent occurrences of rudeness, insult and humiliation of human dignity.

Skillful utilization of diversified means and forms of ideological work helps form in personnel a deep awareness of the indestructible vital force of unity of peoples and pride in one's homeland. Our army, stated Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, is also a special army in the sense that it is a school of internationalism, a school of indoctrination of feelings of brotherhood, solidarity and mutual respect among all the nationalities and ethnic groups in the Soviet Union. Our Armed Forces are a unified, harmonious family, living embodiment of socialist internationalism.

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ARMED FORCES

POLITICAL LECTURE ON INTERNATIONAL MILITARY SITUATION

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[Article by Candidate of Historical Sciences Col N. Ustyakin: "Implementing Congress Decisions: Sacred Duty to Society"; passages rendered in all capital letters printed in boldface in source]

[Text] The 20th century, as Comrade L. I. Brezhnev has pointed out, has brought more changes than any preceding century. And no country has made a more weighty contribution to these changes than the Soviet Union, homeland of the Great October Revolution.

The 1917 October Revolution, which split the world into two opposite social systems, establishment of the first socialist state, and the world-historic victory of the USSR in the Great Patriotic War led to radical changes in the international situation. The main content of the new historical era is expressed in the struggle between the two systems, one of which represents man's past, while the other represents his future. As early as 1913 V. I. Lenin wrote that the absurdity of capitalism was becoming increasingly clearer and more obvious to the masses and that the obsolescent bourgeoisie was uniting with all obsolete and obsolescent forces in order to preserve the shaky system of hired slavery; it was prepared to engage in any and all acts of savagery, brutality and crimes in order to defend the perishing capitalist society.

The next political instruction topic item is "V. I. LENIN AND THE COMMUNIST PARTY ON IMPERIALISM AS THE SOURCE OF WARS. TASKS OF PERSONNEL FOR MAINTAINING A HIGH DEGREE OF VIGILANCE AND CONTINUOUS COMBAT READINESS." Its study will enable warrant officers to gain a deeper understanding of the causes of aggravation of international tension and intensification of the danger of war, as well as to perceive the importance of CPSU activities to hold the imperialist aggressors in check and to strengthen the nation's defense capability, as well as their tasks pertaining to maintaining a high degree of vigilance and combat readiness. Six hours shall be allocated to study of this topic item: 2 hours for lecture and 4 hours for a seminar. It is advisable to examine the following items in the lecture and seminar:

1. V. I. LENIN AND THE COMMUNIST PARTY ON IMPERIALISM AS THE MAIN SOURCE OF WARS IN THE CONTEMPORARY ERA.

2. ACTIVITIES OF THE CPSU AND SOVIET STATE TO STRENGTHEN THIS COUNTRY'S DEFENSE MIGHT.

3. TASKS OF WARRANT OFFICERS TO MAINTAIN STRONG VIGILANCE AND CONTINUOUS COMBAT READINESS.

1. THE ENTIRE COURSE OF WORLD EVENTS once again confirms Lenin's thesis about the aggressive essence of imperialism, on the fact that it is the main source of wars in contemporary conditions. Imperialism, V. I. Lenin pointed out, as regards its root ECONOMIC properties, is distinguished by the least love of peace and freedom and by maximum and ubiquitous development of the military, while "politically imperialism is, generally speaking, a striving toward violence and reaction."

In foreign policy imperialism is characterized by aggression, infringement of the national sovereignty of weak and dependent nations, intervention and establishment of acceptable reactionary regimes in other countries. Take the U.S. aggression in Vietnam, the bloody terrorism unleashed by Israel on Lebanese soil with U.S. support, and by Great Britain in Northern Ireland, Washington's adventure in the Persian Gulf and London's adventure in the South Atlantic. U.S. monopolist circles give every possible support to antipopular dictator regimes in Chile, Paraguay, South Korea, El Salvador, and in the Republic of South Africa, make plans for overt armed intervention in Cuba, Nicaragua and Angola, utilizing as an instrument of aggression the gangs of Somoza followers, reactionary and racist elements in Central America and the Republic of South Africa. Washington has taken under its wing the gangs of Afghan Basmachi and the murderers of the Kampuchean and Laotian peoples. "The monopolies desire the oil, uranium, and nonferrous metals of others -- and the Near East, Africa, and the Indian Ocean are declared to be spheres of 'vital U.S. interests'," it was stated at the 26th CPSU Congress. "The U.S. war machine is aggressively penetrating these areas and is planning to stay for a long time. The island of Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean, Oman, Kenya, Somalia, Egypt -- what will be next?" This is what will be next. The occupant of the White House, addressing the British Parliament, called upon the NATO allies to embark upon a "crusade" against the Soviet Union.

V. I. Lenin devoted particular attention in a number of his writings to exposing the predatory colonial policy, the struggle for division and redivision of the world, and preparations for imperialist, predatory wars. In his "Militant Militarism and the Antimilitarist Tactics of the Social Democrats" Lenin notes that wars are rooted in the very nature of capitalism, that they will come to an end only when the capitalist system ceases to exist, or when the immensity of the human and monetary sacrifices caused by military technological development and public indignation evoked by arms lead to elimination of this system. As Lenin defined it, war is a continuation of the politics of classes and states by violent means. The social character of a war and its true significance, stated V. I. Lenin, are determined by what policy the war is continuing and what class is prosecuting the war for what purposes.

Speaking about imperialist wars, the leader of the proletariat stressed that capitalists wage them for the purpose of gaining world domination, over

division of spoils, for profitable markets for financial, bank capital, and to crush weak nations. V. I. Lenin pointed out that a handful of bankers who hold the entire world in their fist profit from war. In the capitalist countries today, particularly in the United States, the "merchants of death" are extensively employing militarization of the economy and the arms race for their own enrichment. A total of 25,000 different companies, for example, do work for the Pentagon. In 1980 the total value of military contracts awarded to these countries ran to approximately 51 billion dollars, with the lion's share -- 20 billion dollars -- going to about the top 10 monopolies. The huge General Dynamics Corporation, for example, was awarded contracts totaling 3.5 billion dollars. And these figures are constantly increasing year by year. General Dynamics presently holds contracts to build 48 sea-based cruise missiles, 1388 fighter-bombers, 8 Trident submarines costing 1.2 billion dollars each, etc.

According to U.S. figures, as of the beginning of 1981 the total value of just 47 large weapon systems programs was estimated at more than 310 billion dollars. And the Pentagon has 450 such programs planned! Under pressure exerted by the monopolies and the military establishment, militarization permeates the overwhelming majority of areas of the economy of the leading capitalist countries. "Contemporary militarism," wrote V. I. Lenin, "is a result of capitalism. In both its forms it is a 'vital sign' of capitalism: as military force utilized by capitalist states in their external conflicts... and as a weapon serving in the hands of the ruling classes to crush various (economic and political) proletarian movements...." This is Lenin's definition of the essence of militarism. But V. I. Lenin also showed its characteristic features just as clearly: a close link between militarism and state monopoly capital (the military-industrial complex), an arms race directed toward preparations for war, and the establishment of aggressive blocs.

Today the military-industrial complex has become the striking force of imperialism, stimulating reaction in the domestic and foreign policy of the bourgeois countries. For example, the American alliance between the reactionary military establishment and the military-industrial corporations, which is a result of militarism and the entirety of U.S. societal affairs, including foreign policy, exerts direct influence on shaping and implementing Washington's course of policy. Expressing the interests of the most reactionary circles of imperialism, the U.S. authorities and their military-industrial complex have no interest either in global détente or in peaceful settlement of local conflicts.

As the aggressiveness of imperialism increases, its war machine experiences unprecedented growth. In the last 30 years the United States has developed and made operational more than 50 new types of nuclear weapons and has conducted more than 600 nuclear tests. This summer R. Reagan decided not to resume talks with the USSR and Great Britain on total and universal banning of nuclear weapon testing, which constitutes a cynical challenge to the world community. Washington has shifted nuclear war into the category of the possible, and it has directed all its actions toward creating the preconditions for a struggle for the destruction of socialism as a sociopolitical system. The "Directives on Organizational Development of the U.S. Armed Forces" state that U.S. nuclear

forces "must possess superiority and be capable of forcing the Soviet Union to end a war as quickly as possible on terms advantageous for the United States."

U.S. armed forces, which total 3 million military personnel and 1 million civilian employees, are larger in numerical strength and quantity of weapons than the armies of Great Britain, France, Italy and the FRG combined. More than half a million officers and men and more than 1500 U.S. military bases and installations are located on the territory of 32 foreign countries. The Pentagon keeps approximately 12,000 nuclear warheads (one third of its entire stockpile) abroad: 7000 in Western Europe, 1800 at bases in Asia, and as many as 2800 on the ships of the Atlantic and Pacific fleets. In 1980 the United States sold military equipment to 72 different countries for a total of 17.5 billion dollars. It is projected that in the current year this amount will increase to 30 billion dollars. The Pentagon has begun overt militarization of space. Today, as was stressed at the 26th CPSU Congress, "there has been a sharp increase in the aggressiveness of imperialist policy -- particularly of U.S. imperialism."

Discussing the international military alliances of the imperialists, V. I. Lenin emphasized that they are aggressive in nature, are an outgrowth of war, and lead to war. The NATO nations presently possess 80 divisions, with a total of approximately 5 million men and more than 17,000 tanks. In addition, approximately 8000 tanks are in storage, and an additional 9000 are to be delivered.

The United States has placed its own interests in conflict to the interests of the entire international community and builds its own security while ignoring the security of others. The U.S. strategy of so-called "direct confrontation" sanctions the most barbaric modes of waging war, with employment of all mass destruction weapons. The Pentagon's strategy calls for U.S. military superiority, which is defined as achieving the capability to attack the Soviet Union wherever and whenever Washington considers this expedient. The imperialists are also counting on preemptive employment of nuclear weapons.

Preemptive use of nuclear weapons, however, as USSR Minister of Defense MSU D. F. Ustinov commented in an article entitled "Removing the Threat of Nuclear War" (PRAVDA, 12 July 1982), will not bring the aggressor to victory. With the present state of detection systems and the combat readiness of the strategic nuclear weapons of the Soviet Armed Forces, the United States will not succeed in delivering a disarming strike against the socialist nations. No matter how powerful the attacker, stated Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, no matter what mode of initiating nuclear war he chooses, he will be unable to achieve his objectives. Retaliation will inevitably follow.

2. THE SOVIET UNION and the other socialist countries are doing everything they can to prevent a worsening of the world military-political situation. They are actively and consistently working to preserve and strengthen détente, to hold the arms race in check, and to thwart the aggressive adventuristic plans of imperialism. In the postwar period the USSR has advanced more than 120 specific proposals in the area of disarmament and averting the danger of nuclear war. In order to prevent a catastrophe, the Soviet Union announced a pledge from the speaker's stand at the Second Special Session of the UN General Assembly not to

be the first to use nuclear weapons. More than 20 treaties and agreements on military détente issues have been signed at the initiative of our country.

Building communism and preserving world peace are two goals which have been and remain the highest and indissoluble aspirations for the USSR and the other socialist countries. The CPSU and the brother parties firmly and unswervingly pursue the Leninist peace strategy embodied in the Peace Program for the 1980's, adopted by the 26th CPSU Congress, and which has become a common foreign-policy platform for all the nations of the socialist community.

Comrade L. I. Brezhnev stated at the 26th CPSU Congress: "We are continuing the struggle for a radical normalization of the international situation." The Soviet Union and the other Warsaw Pact nations have advanced a number of concrete proposals pertaining to military détente in Europe, since the concentration of troops and military hardware here is 20 times the average for the world as a whole. Therefore one way to achieve military détente and disarmament is a mutual reduction of military forces in the central part of the European continent. The USSR considers reduction of the concentration of troops and arms in Europe as one of the most important tasks for securing international stability. The socialist countries have submitted approximately 20 important initiatives at the Vienna talks, proposals which are backed up by practical deeds -- the Soviet Union unilaterally removed 20,000 military personnel, a thousand tanks and other military equipment from Central Europe. The United States and its Western partners, however, are not genuinely interested in seeking mutually acceptable solutions.

In conditions where international tension and the danger of war have increased sharply, the Soviet Union is compelled to take measures to maintain its defense capability at an adequate level. This is a harsh and urgent necessity. Comrade L. I. Brezhnev stated from the speaker's stand at the 26th CPSU Congress: "In the period under review the party and government have not for one single day lost sight of questions pertaining to STRENGTHENING THIS COUNTRY'S DEFENSIVE MIGHT AND ITS ARMED FORCES. The international situation forces us to do this."

Resolving problems of strengthening the defense of the socialist state, the Communist Party inalterably proceeds from Lenin's statement that "War includes all types of all areas of organizational development." This country's defense capability does not reduce merely to increasing the combat power of the Armed Forces. It constitutes an aggregate of all the material and spiritual resources of the Soviet Union. Therefore successful implementation of the tasks of the 11th Five-Year Plan and decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress pertaining to the further economic, sociopolitical and spiritual development of our society will have a beneficent influence on strengthening our nation's defense, its army and navy.

Thanks to concern on the part of the CPSU and the entire Soviet people, the technical equipment of all branches of the Armed Forces and combat arms is continuously improving. They are equipped with weapons which are at the level of the latest advances in science and technology and which meet the demands of contemporary warfare. Today the army and navy possess everything they need for reliable defense of the socialist homeland and decisively to crush any aggressor.

The combat potential of the Armed Forces is predetermined not only by their technical equipment but also by the high degree of military skill and proficiency of personnel. Military skill represents different content for different categories of military personnel. While for enlisted men and noncommissioned officers it means primarily the ability to utilize the weapons and equipment assigned to them, for military cadres, including warrant officers, it is first and foremost the art of controlling subordinates in peacetime and in conditions of combat, and the ability to accomplish combat and political training tasks at a high professional level, with excellent quality.

One of the most characteristic features of our Armed Forces and one of the components of their combat potential is the indomitable morale of personnel. Our army and navy have always been and continue to be distinguished by a high political-moral state, by the willingness and capability of personnel successfully to carry out combat training tasks of any complexity, staunchly to endure increased moral-psychological and physical work loads connected with maintaining continuous combat readiness in time of peace, and in case of war the ability to endure privations and the most difficult tests of war, including sacrificing one's very life, for the sake of achieving victory.

The 26th CPSU Congress, highly rating the combat potential of the Soviet Armed Forces, expressed confidence that "they will continue in the future reliably guarding the peaceful, productive labor of the Soviet people!"

Soviet military doctrine is of a defensive nature. We do not now have, have not had, and will not have any other strategic doctrine than defensive. This was stated in the 15 May 1980 Declaration of the Warsaw Pact Member Nations. The USSR's strategic nuclear forces have never been called offensive forces, as is the case in the United States. The essence of Soviet military doctrine is as follows: guided by the principles of a Leninist foreign policy of peace and international security, it is directed toward defense of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries and toward preventing imperialist aggression. Knowing the habits and character of aggressive forces, we read in the above-mentioned article by the minister of defense, the USSR will maintain a high degree of vigilance and continuous combat readiness of its Armed Forces at the level of today's demands. Our defensive military doctrine, calculated exclusively to repulse an external threat, will be of a passive nature. As always, it will rest on the solid foundation of Leninist teaching on defense of the socialist homeland. We soberly assess, stressed Comrade D. F. Ustinov, both the adventuristic nature of the Pentagon's thinking and the state of combat readiness and capabilities of U.S. strategic forces.

3. THE EXPERIENCE OF HISTORY TEACHES US that the stronger our army is and the greater our vigilance, the more solid peace is on our borders and the more solid peace is on our planet. As they say: even in days of peace a soldier has business of war.

With all its complexity, scale and multiplicity of levels, combat readiness for each collective and for each serviceman possesses a quite definite, concrete content, which is specified in field manuals, regulations, commander orders, and corresponding instructions. Warrant officers have been assigned important areas of responsibility in units and naval ships. Just as officers, they lead

military collectives, teach and indoctrinate subordinates. And in order to conduct ideological-indoctrination work with enlisted personnel in an effective and purposeful manner, warrant officers themselves must thoroughly study Marxism-Leninism, the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress, the works of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, and the theory and practice of political, military and moral indoctrination. It is particularly important extensively to utilize the method of individual work with personnel. One should bear in mind thereby that only combined employment of all forms and means of ideological influence forms in personnel a Communist ideological outlook, an active attitude toward life, a profound understanding of one's patriotic and internationalist duty, and awareness of the acuteness and danger of the present situation in the world and the necessity of a high degree of vigilance and continuous combat readiness in connection with this.

Warrant officers are highly skilled specialists. But military affairs are not standing still: military hardware is becoming increasingly more complex, and increased demands are being made on the military skills of each and every serviceman, on skilled and coordinated actions by entire subunits. A high degree of military proficiency and the ability to gain victory over a powerful, technically equipped adversary is the foundation of combat readiness. It is important in connection with this to improve the quality and effectiveness of each and every training session, to prevent unnecessary relaxation of demands and unnecessary simplifications in combat training, and constantly to be guided by the fundamental principle of teaching and learning that which is essential in war. To improve combat readiness means to gain a mastery of one's weapons and combat equipment and maximally to utilize their combat capabilities. A powerful factor for increasing military skills in this regard has been and still is skillfully organized socialist competition. Dedicated to the 60th anniversary of establishment of the USSR, it is being conducted this year under the slogan "Reliable Defense of the Peaceful Labor of the Soviet People!" The degree of influence of competition on the combat proficiency of servicemen depends in large measure on how skillfully warrant officers organize fulfillment of pledges by their subordinates, keep an eye on progress in this area of endeavor, and concern themselves with dissemination and practical adoption of advanced combat training know-how.

One of the most important tasks of warrant officers is to work even more aggressively to influence strengthening of organization and discipline in subordinates, to indoctrinate them in a spirit of strict observance of laws, military regulations and the military oath, and to develop in them the ability to carry out their duties in any and all conditions and situations. As was stated at the 6th Armed Forces Conference of Secretaries of Primary Party Organizations, there is no combat readiness without firm discipline. Of inestimable importance among the diversity of ways of strengthening discipline is flawless personal example by warrant officers in carrying out their military duty and in observing the demands of military regulations and the standards of Communist morality.

Maintaining continuous combat readiness is inconceivable without a high degree of vigilance. In conditions where the imperialist aggressors are scheming to launch a sneak attack, Soviet servicemen, including warrant officers, must be

prepared at all times to carry out a combat mission. "To be taken unawares or to lose one's head," stated V. I. Lenin, "means losing everything.... Military vigilance and strictness, unswervingness in taking all precautionary measures!" Warrant officers are called upon to wage a constant aggressive struggle against our class enemies, to ensure resolute and persuasive exposure of the anti-popular essence of imperialism, particularly U.S. imperialism, and its reactionary, aggressive policies.

Vigilance is also necessary in standing alert duty, guard duty and administrative duties within the unit, in the course of combat and political training. Complacency, gullibility, and talkativeness are absolutely intolerable in the military environment. Vigilance means guarding state and military secrets.

Carrying out the demands of the 26th CPSU Congress, army and navy personnel tirelessly improve their combat skills in the course of daily military labor, seek to achieve high results in socialist competition, and maintain continuous combat readiness in view of the acuteness and tenseness of the present international situation. They are inalterably guided in this by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's statement that combat readiness is the crown of troop combat expertise in time of peace and the key to victory in war.

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ARMED FORCES

ATHEISTIC EDUCATION IN THE ARMED FORCES

In the Baltic Military District

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Mar 82 p 2

[Article by Maj V. Norvind, senior instructor of Department of Propaganda and Agitation, Political Directorate, Red Banner Baltic Military District: "Meeting in the Club"]

[Text] Senior Lieutenant V. Yundulas turned attention to this timid, bashful soldier as early as last week when the young soldiers were brought to the cinema. They all entered the auditorium but he dawdled about confused in the corridor. The chief of the unit club, V. Yundulas, learned the name of the young soldier (let us call him Stepan Semenov), and later was interested in his service. It was learned that there are no claims against Semenov, he maintains even relations with his comrades but has no friends. The commanders turned attention to his reticence and taciturnity.

The next time, when Semenov again tried to leave the cinema auditorium, Yundulas invited him into his office. The first talk took place, then a second, and a third. And the assumption was confirmed: Semenov admitted that his family, especially his parents, are distinguished by religiousness. And he himself often went to church. Before being called up to the army, Stepan even sang in a church choir....

There is no denying--a rare occurrence. In our enlightened era, at a time of an unprecedented rise in culture--and suddenly a young believer who is killing time behind a prayer book and in the church choir. But since this happened, it means that it is necessary to look for ways for the moral healing of a lost soul. Senior Lieutenant Yundulas knew well how painful it is for a person who has fallen on religious ways, knew from his own bitter experience. And he told Stepan about those agonizing days when, on the call of his parents, he had to walk to the Roman Catholic church, walk past his fellow-classmates who were happily chasing a football and casting humiliating gibes, about those desperate attempts to break away from the tenacious guardianship of his Christian "brothers" which, in the end, were crowned with success, and about the happy time of spiritual enlightenment and joy of genuinely comradely contact in the working, and then in the army, collective.

This is why Senior Lieutenant Yundulas understood well the soldier's state and his emotional experience. He understood and conducted the necessary indoctrinational

work together with the commander and political officer. And this work bore fruit: during a leave which was granted to the soldier he refused to sing in the choir, and after the end of his service he departed for a Komsomol construction job. From there, Semenov recently sent a warm letter to Senior Lieutenant V. Yundulas in which, in particular, he wrote that he was born twice: "...the first time as a person, and the second--when I finally broke with religion."

By the concurrence of circumstances this meeting was accidental. But Yundulas' presentation in the Vilnius Officer's House at assemblies of cultural and educational personnel, where he told about this event and read the letter which he received, was not accidental. Such presentations are often practiced here. Experienced lecturers on antireligious propaganda--Major V. Vakhterov and Colonel (Reserve) I. Ryaboshtanov--are conducting important work on the propagation of a procedure for the conduct of atheistic activity. Special popularity is enjoyed by presentations in the units of the garrison by former Roman Catholics who broke with religion. Thus, in one of the agitation brigades personnel of the Officers' House included a former Roman Catholic, I. Stankaytis. The collective of the Officers' House also uses feature films, film strips, and slides. Here the experience in designing graphic agitation for antireligious propaganda is generalized.

Atheistic work is being conducted successfully by Lieutenant Colonel M. Startsev, Majors I. Zubovskiy and A. Firsov, Captain A. Chornay, Senior Lieutenant A. Sukhanov, and Lieutenant A. Kalashnikov. These officers are operating skillfully with facts and examples concerning the news of the day. Each such presentation, discussion, lecture, and motion picture soiree leaves a deep trace in the consciousness of the men. Especially among those who once experienced the influence of religion themselves.

Marriage By Priest Discussed

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Apr 82 p 2

[Article by Col V. Filatov: "Concession"]

[Text] At first there was talk here. The future mother-in-law said:

"Serezha! In our family it is the custom that young people marry in the church. Look here," she extended her spread fingers toward him. "I was married in the church--one, my mama was married in the church--two, my grandmother was married in the church--three."

The counting stopped suddenly on the third finger--there was nothing further to count.

It cannot be stated with confidence that the mother-in-law's geneological tree which seemed to rise unexpectedly before Sergey's eyes struck him so that it obscured his reason, however....

There now are two versions of the further course of events. The first one is the mother-in-law's version (the mother-in-law, by the way, is now former):

"He (that is, Sergey) did not protest, agreed immediately, and came to an understanding about everything with the priest. The wedding took place on 22 January in the church of the village of Banilov-Podgorny. After the wedding, we set the table there for 60 people...."

The second version is the son-in-law's:

"There was no wedding in the church. Why did I travel to that village with my fiancée and mother-in-law?" he asks again and remains silent for a time. "Well, to invite my fiancée's relatives," he finds the right word at last. "Why did they lay a table for 60 people if the wedding is in the city tomorrow?" Sergey again asks. "This is all the doing of the mother-in-law." "Was there a priest at the wedding?" "Yes and no, but in general, yes. We sat down at a table. He came in. With a beard. Everyone stood, we too. He said something. He made the sign of the cross.... Then he left. He did not sit at the table. He was not driven out...."

Sergey affects naivety, but meanwhile it is no secret to anyone--the church, not wanting to lag behind the times, now contrives to conduct a large part of all weddings at the home of the clients. And what Sergey unwillingly says about the priest who allegedly, by chance, came to his wedding on his own initiative is also a wedding with delivery to the house today. A very convenient method for some to try as they say, to keep their innocence and acquire capital. And Sergey has something to keep: he is a member of the CPSU, a member of the unit Komsomol committee, and a political lessons group leader. He is a senior lieutenant and a chief of the clothing supply service.... His name is Pikulin.

When I first had the occasion to hear about this story, about what happened to the officer-communist, I automatically and immediately thought like the poet: "If it were exhibited in a museum..."--with the appropriate correction for the situation. I thought that actually this, perhaps "will not be seen in a lifetime." But I suddenly had the occasion to hear the unexpected from one with whom I had a talk: "So what, it is not worth a farthing. A wedding--a beautiful, ancient rite, and that is all. And your Pikulin, I'll bet 100 to 1, does not believe either in God or in the devil and will not. Is it worth raising a fuss?"

Concerning the fact that he does not believe in God or in the devil, my conversationalist proved to be correct. I was convinced of this when I met Pikulin. He does not believe either in God or in the devil. Well, then in what does he, Pikulin, believe? What does he profess? The questions are not idle because any faith requires of a person service and specific deeds. The faith of a person is in his actions. And here, evidently, is where the answer to the question should be sought. In this sense, Pikulin is not a riddle. Here, for example, they turned over a large house for occupancy. In it, the officers of the unit were allocated several apartments. But not one window shone in this house for the apartmentless bachelor Pikulin. Nevertheless, he went to his chief to ask about it. The latter explained:

"We cannot allocate a separate apartment to a bachelor. When you get married, come back."

"And if I get married now, will you give me an apartment in the house which they are renting?"

"That's another conversation...."

Four days remained until the renting of the house. Prior to this visit to the office of the chief, Pikulin did not dream of any wedding. And here--such a thought! And such times! Where to find a bride, whom to take for a wife? Emerging from the office, he decided in a businesslike manner: Natasha would be his wife. What advantages did she have over other acquaintances? First, she works in the area of trade, something like a colleague. Second, his future mother-in-law is a manager of a storehouse, and Pikulin feels as follows about the management of a warehouse.... "My warehouse is my treasure," he said later in his conversation with me. And third, for all that, she is a fellow-villager, from Chernovtsy, from almost the same street, although they only met a couple of times, by chance, in passing. No matter that they were unable to make each other out clearly.

As they say, he made up his mind to get married, just as one doesn't become a drunkard in a night. Now nothing could keep Pikulin from the decision which he had made. In an instant he obtained permission to travel home a thousand kilometers--to his fiancée, for the purpose of a wedding and getting married. Two days were spent on affairs of the heart, not counting the journey. But the matter proceeded at a good tempo--Natasha immediately agreed, and his mother-in-law rejoiced. And when it already seemed that the matter had been accomplished--the certificate of marriage which is so necessary for presentation to the housing commission almost in the pocket, the Most High interfered--his mother-in-law declared: "In our family...." Further according to the text. A discussion on the subject: is there a God or not--threatened Pikulin with a loss of time, the train with the one-room apartment could get away. Pikulin quickly weighed all the "pro's" and all the "con's." The "pro's" won. The hell with it, he waved his hand.

Shortly after the wedding, Natasha and Sergey were divorced. And the battle began over what was believed in--a battle for a one-room apartment and whom to leave in it. When I arrived at the unit, the battle was in full swing. The parents of the parties who had left their home cities and hurried here took part in it. Each one took the side of his or her offspring. The battle proceeded over a color television set and tape recorder, for a refrigerator and automobile, and for rubles overpaid for the wedding. The sides demanded a "just" division. But the apartment and the things were not divided. The nucleus of an atom is divisible, but this proved to be indivisible.

The unit commander, his political deputy, and the secretary of the party organization were drawn into the fight. They supported Natasha. But Pikulin did not give in.... No one any longer remembered the wedding as such nor the priest at the wedding.

In the unit headquarters they said that it was impossible to meet with Pikulin today because in the morning he and the secretary of the party organization had taken off for the political department; there the party commission was to examine his personal file. It had already been investigated in the primary party organization. Pikulin had been given a strict reprimand with an entry in his registration card for...concealing the facts of damage to sheepskin coats in the unit storehouse, for deceit and forgery in drawing up documents on the turning over of these sheepskin coats, and for great material loss. Here it is: "My storehouse is my treasure...."

I asked the members of the bureau about another fact--about the wedding with the priest which the communist had. They answered: the matter cannot be proven; therefore, at the party meeting the wedding with the priest was swept aside at once. The discussion concerned something specific--the damage to the sheepskin coats and other Pikulin machinations.

Of course, who is responsible for the fact that sheepskin coats were left to rot in the storehouses? Who is responsible for the fact that fictitious invoices were drawn up? One should answer for this in accordance with all the strictness of Soviet laws. For this, by the way, there is also the procurator's office. Well, and a wedding with a priest? The procurator will not be interested in this--as they say, there is no element of a crime before the law. But how about another element, called--flouting our party traditions and principles? Who should be interested in this?

To establish the fact of damage to the sheepskin coats is a simple matter. To ascertain the fact of forgery of documents is also easy. In essence, it lies on the surface: on the shelves of storehouses and in the files for business papers. But then, to dig inside, to sense what makes a person breathe, to understand what is sacred to him, work of a completely different order is needed for this. There is a damaged sheepskin coat and there is a damaged soul. How do we face it? Do we often speak of this at our party meetings? In our evaluations of our deeds and affairs do we often rise to generalizations and conclusions based on principle?

Not to believe in God, not to steal, and not to cause damage--there is no merit in this for a communist. His merit is to be an uncompromising fighter always and everywhere for our communist ideals, to be a militant atheist, an enemy of those who steal, a roadblock where someone can cause loss and damage. And he should not be anything else. In the conversation, Sergey Pikulin could in no way comprehend this. In no way could he understand the damage which he had caused by agreeing to a wedding with a priest, although today it is obvious to all that it is hardly church rituals themselves which serve as the main channel for religious propaganda, but first of all--religious weddings. In no way could he comprehend that a wedding with a priest at which he was a bridegroom became a matter of principle. The question is that "hunters of souls" use the Pikulins as an example in the cultivation of those who are not strong of soul and who are easily confused.

All this should have been explained to Pikulin, but of course, in the party organization. But, unfortunately, this did not happen. Is it not because it is simpler and safer to speak at that party meeting, where his personal file was examined, with speeches about Pikulin's service unscrupulousness than to investigate and discover a fact of a different type? And suddenly and actually, it turns out that a communist of their party organization and a leader of a group in political lessons had a religious wedding? Then what?... Surely not, it is better to sweep it aside at once as unprovable and...to create a commission on investigating the case of damage to the sheepskin coats.

Aren't we sometimes becoming like the careless landlord who comes to his garden bed each day, discovers weeds in it but, instead of weeding it well and tearing the weeds out with the roots he only tears off the tops of these weeds with frank indignation and resentment? Perhaps, having examined how it happened that a priest-father was found at Pikulin's wedding we would also understand more rapidly and completely how he came to embezzlement and forgery. Perhaps, namely at this party meeting the

talk should have concerned the party principles of each communist and it would have become a genuine school of political maturity.

...This time Pikulin returned from the party commission with nothing. The party commission postponed the analysis of his file, perceiving correctly that the primary party organization approached the investigation, evaluations, and conclusions superficially and in an unprincipled manner. The political department sent its own representative to the primary party organization for a more qualified investigation. It should be thought that he will be able to examine this matter.

Soldier Reluctant to Yield Beliefs

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Jul 82 p 2

[Article by Maj N. Khaust, Red Banner Central Asian Military District: "Helping to See Clearly"]

[Text] Major A. Kulagin picked up the telephone receiver:

"Send in Private...." he requested and immediately hesitated. "Well about this.... Who is he...our believer?"

"Private Pavlovets,--I found his name in a notebook."

"That's it, Pavlovets," the officer nodded his head. "He serves excellently. Industrious, painstaking...."

After a while, a well-collected, copper-haired soldier entered the office and looked us over guardedly.

"Come in, Pavlovets, take a seat," Kulagin invited him. "We haven't seen each other for quite a while. Tell me, how are you serving?"

"I am serving just as a presbyter orders," the answer was heard.

"And does he often send such orders," I inquired.

In the end, Pavlovets warmed up to the subject and even acquainted us with his last letter. It was from a girl who was the same age as the soldier. She reported the news of the community and that until recently she disappeared in a chapel, recording prayers on a tape recording and she further hastened to gladden her "brother" with the fact that she had prepared a special album for him which they will send soon....

A little time passes and Pavlovets, taking his leave courteously, departs. And Major Kulagin extinguishes a cigarette in an ash tray with a sudden movement and says in a fit of temper:

"Only think how they watch over him. And we try and try, and really, for now to no purpose. This Pavlovets is difficult. He is one of those who doesn't give in."

It is worth pondering over these words. And first of all, over whether they actually try to help their fellow-serviceman to see clearly in the collective. Nor can the question fail to be asked: but are there people who do not give in, generally speaking? It seems to me that they become like this due to the indifference of those who surround them and indifference to their fate.

And here, I cannot help but recall another case. In one of the subunits served Private F. Shenkel'--his pre-army road was similar to that of Pavlovets. In the subunit, of course, they also talked with him, convinced him, and proved to him that there is no God. Alas, Shenkel' did not give up his views. Who knows what would have been the fate of the Altai fellow if officer A. Yeremenko did not work earnestly with him. Here he really displayed enviable diligence in helping the soldier. It did not happen at once, but he learned that Shenkel' draws well and that he loves the cinema. Thanks to Yeremenko's persistence, one film on an atheistic subject was shown in the club, and another. And here, also, television began to broadcast the film, "Shadows Disappear at Noon." It was viewed by the entire subunit and then discussed collectively. Yeremenko also spoke to the men.

"The 'shadows' of the past," he said, "are wandering among us even now. And they look like anything but recluses. Take the presbyter of the sectarian commune, Yakov Bayev...."

Hearing the name of his "spiritual mentor," Private Shenkel' was taken aback and began toidget uneasily. And the officer related how the presbyter becomes rich through the people whom he has deceived. He also mentioned Bayev's past. Calling himself a frontline fighter, he actually sat snugly in the rear and was engaged in thievery and robbery.

When the talk ended, Shenkel' walked up to Yeremenko and asked where he obtained such data. In response, he saw a letter from his native village, from the chairman of the kolkhoz.

"I did not know that," the soldier was surprised.

"There is much that you still do not know," said Yeremenko.

Their talk continued for a long time. The officer told about the ship "Jesus" on which the first batch of slaves arrived in America and about the "Holy Trinity"--not a religious celebration, but the code name for the first test of a nuclear weapon by the American claimants to world domination....

Such conversations also continued subsequently. And for Shenkel', each one was an open window to a world that was new for him. And later Shenkel' was released to the reserve. A year later Yeremenko received a letter from him. In it were these lines: "I am studying in a university. I am done with the past forever. Thanks for everything!"

In recalling this case, you automatically think about whether Private Pavlovets will ever say "thanks" to his fellow-servicemen. For the present, you doubt this. For they have done virtually nothing for his enlightenment. Communists and Komsomols approached him with a verbal "cavalry" attack and shirked before the wall of religious dogmas. And soon they stopped paying attention to the fact that he is a believer.

But is it possible to reeducate a person with a swoop, all the more a person in whose consciousness religious prejudices have taken firm root? For no matter how unsubstantiatedly you tell him that there is no God, he will assert unsubstantiatedly that the "Most High" exists. This means that a special approach is needed, that fine, well thought out, nonstandard work is needed. What is needed each time, if you will, is a new search, our own educational discoveries are needed. As was manifested in the case of Private Shenkel'. As was also done in another situation.

It all began when the members of the library council of the Nth unit checked the condition of the books. A letter was discovered in one of the small volumes. Really strange--a kind of advertisement of "God's merits." The activists stood upon their guard. They reported their find to the party committee.

And then, on the next Sunday the attention of the men was attracted by an unusual announcement. "The Bible states that only God can revive a genuine desert. The chairman of the '40 Years of October' kolkhoz of the Taldy-Kurgan oblast, Hero of Socialist Labor N. Golovatskiy, proves otherwise. The meeting with him will take place today...."

The veteran was very convincing when he said that the land was transformed and was made to flourish not by any Most Highest, but by man--the worker, and he is the genuine master of the land.

And nevertheless, in the unit they did not limit themselves to this measure. And each next one was more interesting than the other. The name of the believing soldier also soon became known. By the way, by this time he already doubted his faith. And the first spark of doubt was engendered by the meeting with the labor veteran. And then the soldier forgot the past completely and set forth firmly on the correct path.

Private Pavlovets was not invited to such meetings. They did not even think of them in the battalion. During Pavlovets' service not one measure on an atheistic subject was conducted in the unit.

I wrote this and recalled another unit and a similar situation. There, at last, in reacting to reproach for the neglect of antireligious work, they conducted a measure. It was supposed that first of all it would be addressed to Privates V. Vil'khovoy and S. Skumatov. But, in essence, it turned out to be a blank shot. Instead of inviting lecturers who are specialists in exposing sectarianism to the local section of the "Znaniye" [Knowledge] society, they organized a talk by specialists in orthodox religion in the unit. The lecturers showed by means of experiences how clergymen deceive people in accomplishing the "renewal" of the icons and the "spontaneous igniting" of the candle, and Vil'khovoy and Skumatov smiled. For they are sectarians and do not worship the cross and icons.

Later, when this error was pointed out, the political officer, Major L. Zhila, noted with dissatisfaction:

"We are not specialists in atheism and don't understand the fine points. And really, we did not have believers before this...."

When the talk turns to atheistic propaganda, one can often hear that, they say, is it necessary if there are no believers in the collective? There is no denying that a soldier who believes is really a rare phenomenon. One may not even appear at all in a military collective. But despite this, in my opinion atheistic work should be conducted continuously. It should be conducted to indoctrinate young people comprehensively in the spirit of communist ideology and morals and to help them to develop within themselves the activity of a life's position and to teach the ability to defend the positions of atheism whenever necessary in life.

This is exactly how they proceed in the unit where the propagandist is Captain A. Kuvalaki. There are no believers in this collective, but measures are conducted on the subject of atheism. "Round table" meetings of party and Komsomol activists have also become regular in the unit. One such meeting took place recently. It was lively, interesting, and instructive. Major M. Plavinskiy told of how religion is adapting to the present day. Captain A. Zagrebel'nyy, using interesting facts from indoctrinational work with believers, showed both its complexity and the most effective paths to the consciousness of a person who is clouded by religion. In short, here they understand the importance of atheistic propaganda and realize that there should be no interruptions in it.

The importance of this work is also mentioned in the decree of the CPSU Central Committee, "On the further improvement of ideological and political-indoctrinational work." It requires the working out and implementation of specific measures on strengthening atheistic indoctrination and increasing the responsibility of communists and Komsomols in the struggle against religious prejudices. This means that political officers and party and Komsomol activists should constantly think about how to work better on this sector of the ideological front.

...Before departing from the distant garrison, I dropped in at the political department and the telephone rang here. The political officer of the adjacent unit called. He inquired if it was true that a believing soldier is being transferred to them.

"Not Private Pavlovets?" I inquired.

"Him," the answer sounded.

"And how do you take this news?"

The political officer became silent, and then he said:

"Let them transfer him. It means that they themselves do not know how to work...."

6367

CSO: 1801/018

GROUND FORCES

AWOL UNREPORTED, OTHER PROBLEMS IN UNIT DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Oct 82 p 2

[Article by Maj B. Krasnonogov, staff officer of X combined unit: "Letter to the Editors: Do Not Renounce Your Conscience"]

[Text] I was brought to these musings by an incident which was being hotly discussed among the officers of our unit. Opinions varied, and at times were directly opposed to one another. And I decided to write a letter to the editors.

It is difficult to comprehend what motivations guided party member Sr Lt A. Maisyev before proceeding with this step. He himself claimed that he simply had not attached any significance to the absence of Pvt Sh. Mamboyev from formation. There was the range facility and the firing range nearby. They said he was playing volleyball somewhere or getting together with fellows from his native region. He would turn up. Nor did Maisyev report to the commanding officer the fact that the soldier was absent from the next formation. Some time later it became known that Mamboyev had committed a serious offense.

This incident was vigorously discussed at a battalion party meeting. Unfortunately Capt N. Vladykin, Lt S. Mayakov and others spoke out in justification of Maisyev. Their reasoning went: where is his guilt -- for not promptly reporting it? But he had to look into the matter.... There were also others, such as Sr Lt N. Savin. He did not speak at the meeting, but during the break he proceeded to argue that Maisyev had done nothing wrong.

Of course a situation can occur where the circumstances behind an incident are unclear and the reasons for an infraction committed by a serviceman have not been determined. But even then it is the commander's duty to report the incident through proper channels, explaining that an investigation is in progress. If Senior Lieutenant Maisyev had done this, nobody would have accused him of attempting to conceal a disciplinary infraction. But he did not think about the consequences and the responsibility resting on his shoulders.

An officer's firmness and strong sense of responsibility for the assigned job is manifested in the objectivity and honesty of his reports. Unfortunately one sometimes encounters a so-called "double set of books": in the subunit they

keep precise records of the number of violations of military discipline, but an understated figure is reported "upward" -- to headquarters. And this is done for the purpose of looking better in the eyes of one's superiors.

Instances of distortion in disciplinary practices had occurred in the battery in which Lieutenant Mayakov was serving as acting commander. Only one breach of regulations had been reported to headquarters.

We are dealing here with deception. The battalion deputy commander for political affairs, Capt N. Vorkutin, should have dealt firmly with this situation. But he let this opportunity slip, doing nothing. Why? Because Captain Vorkutin himself was not against occasionally embellishing the picture regarding the state of affairs of training and discipline in the battalion.

Take the following, for example. The unit party committee secretary asked Captain Vorkutin how political training was proceeding with Senior Lieutenant Maiseyev's men.

"Everything is going fine," he replied.

But an inspection revealed that Captain Vorkutin had not delved very deeply into the question but had given praise prematurely. He did not even respond to an entry which the higher commander made in the personnel progress log. And yet this entry did not very highly rate the level and quality of political instruction classes in the subunit. Captain Vorkutin not only failed to take steps to correct deficiencies but even attempted to make the state of affairs with political instruction classes look better than it was. To what does such an attitude lead? To a situation where deficiencies take deep root. Things got to the point where Captain Vorkutin and all political instruction group leaders in the battalion failed to attend a seminar at the garrison officers' club.

Sometimes an inspection reveals instances of overstating personnel performance. This is nothing other than lessening demands, an attempt to make training performances look better and to obtain undeserved praise.

I recall how they found out in the unit party committee about overstated performance marks in the battery under the command of Captain Vladykin.

"What do you mean!" the officer hotly argued to the party committee members. "It was an unfortunate error. I simply graded the men's answers incorrectly. There was not the slightest intention to deceive. I state this in all sincerity."

He would have us believe that to report that his men have mastered the training program with a mark of excellent (although they only received a mark of satisfactory in the final performance testing) is not deception but merely a harmless misunderstanding. And it never occurred to Captain Vladykin what detriment to the moral indoctrination of his men is caused by such an approach to rating their performance.

Of course the majority of the unit's officers, warrant officers and NCOs display a high degree of firmness in their job and do not tolerate any violations of regulations or manifestations of deception. For example, battery commander party member Sr Lt Ye. Lapshin is always honest and objective in his reports on the state of discipline and training progress in the battery. And it is not surprising that the level of military discipline is quite high here. The subunit is rated excellent.

...I once again turn my thoughts to the incident with Sr Lt Maisyev. I am firmly convinced that those who justified his behavior are wrong, for this officer did not simply not want to air dirty linen. What were his prevailing motives? If you report a man absent without leave, you get chewed out by the commander for deficiencies in disciplining your men. It is better to keep silent....

Practical experience has shown that the more strictly and demandingly we treat such incidents, the faster and more effectively we root out any and all manifestations of dishonesty and deception in our military life.

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CSO: 1801/077

GROUND FORCES

OFFICERS' PROFESSIONAL QUALITIES

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Nov 82 p 2

[Article by Lt Gen Arty Yu. Gor'kov: "Sense of the New"]

[Text] This happened recently at the range. In the midst of a tactical exercise, when antiaircraft missile crews were ready to fire, a small, fast-moving target suddenly appeared at close range. It was swiftly covering ground at low level, maneuvering, and taking cover behind terrain irregularities. It was obvious that this target should receive first priority. But just as the crews locked on and proceeded to track it, the target moved out of range.

A rather acute situation had developed, during which the commanding officer, who was directing the firing exercise, made a number of mistakes. Essentially they boiled down to the fact that he had responded according to the old procedures in conditions demanding a nontypical decision. At first the officer tried to justify his actions: he claimed that the capabilities of the equipment had made it impossible to accomplish such a difficult task in an excellent fashion.... He was profoundly in error, and this was brilliantly demonstrated by the subsequent course of the firing exercise, executed by the men of Lt Col A. Malyarov. A similar situation prevailed -- complicated, in many ways unusual. The "aggressor" was heavily jamming, while at the most critical moment a fast-moving small target appeared at extremely low altitude. But this did not dishearten the missile crewmen. Lieutenant Colonel Malyarov, estimating the situation, immediately rejected the normal procedure and hit upon a bold, unique engagement model version suggested by the very dynamics of development of events. Aggressively employing automated means of control, he skillfully shifted fire, concentrating it, depending on the situation, now in one, now in another direction. The small target, followed by the remaining targets, were hit with the first missiles fired. Officer Malyarov's men were among the first to pass this unusual and in all respects difficult test in excellent fashion.

Thus success passed one commander by, but not Lieutenant Colonel Malyarov. Of course his choice of a felicitous engagement model had nothing in common with simple luck or a sudden idea which came to him, as might seem at first glance. He was helped in reaching a precise, thoroughly substantiated decision in such a difficult situation by the valuable quality of a sense of the new. It

presupposes the ability keenly to note and vigorously to respond to all unexpected developments on the battlefield and the ability innovatively and with maximum effectiveness to utilize his knowledge and experience to solve suddenly arising problems. Formed as a result of long-persistent work out here on the range, this quality was fully revealed at a decisive moment and materialized in a concrete action.

Lieutenant Colonel Malyarov structures combat training efficiently, with a focus on the future, seeks and finds training techniques and methods which ensure the best results in the occupational training of missile crewmen. And when they encountered an unexpected, essentially new situation out on the range, this did not catch them napping -- they had been internally prepared to solve such problems by the entire course of training exercises and drills.

The military has been subjected, perhaps to a greater extent than any other field, to continuous change and improvement. Several generations of weapons and equipment have supplanted one another just in recent years, and the methods of their combat employment have undergone substantial changes. This imposes high demands on the combat proficiency of Soviet servicemen, including air defense personnel.

"It is essential to be able to operate taking into account the latest advances in military science and the art of warfare," stressed Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev in a speech at a conference of top-ranking military officers at the Kremlin. Soviet servicemen perceive these words as a most important party demand, as a law governing their daily lives and service activities.

One cannot coast for a single day in the process of mastering military affairs. To stop progressing means to fall behind, to utilize techniques and methods which are already obsolete, which have become commonplace, which cannot guarantee success. Of course the above statement does not represent a new discovery, but unfortunately one still encounters among officers those who adhere to old, established patterns and who prefer to do things in the old way. And even when the new is knocking at the door, as they say, these officers sometimes are in no hurry to take a step forward, to make adjustments in their work style and practices.

Such an approach typified officer V. Makutov, for example.

A situation which was unusual in many ways developed at a certain tactical exercise. It was necessary within a limited period of time to analyze and evaluate a large volume of information on "aggressor" aircraft, to consider the capabilities of friendly assets, and to make a well-substantiated decision. Within seconds such a solution was available -- it had been produced by a computer. Officer Makutov, however, ignored it. Following the old procedures in unaccustomed conditions, he utilized traditional methods to substantiate his own solution variant. This variant was distinguished neither by boldness of concept nor precision of execution and, most important, it failed to provide for maximum utilization of equipment capabilities, which became distinctly obvious in the course of the exercise.

I shall note that officer Makutov is a fairly well-trained specialist and cannot be faulted for lack of knowledge of equipment and tactics. But this is not enough for a commander, who is an organizer and maker of combat. Military leader personnel of any echelon, as was stressed in an address delivered at the Sixth Armed Forces Conference of Secretaries of Primary Party Organizations by USSR Minister of Defense MSU D. F. Ustinov, can count on success in his work only when he maintains pace with the latest advances in military theory.

A sense of the new is distinctive of leading commanders, political workers, and staff officers. When one becomes acquainted with the experience of the top subunits and units, one becomes clearly convinced that they are led by commanders with the ability innovatively to approach the organization of the training and indoctrination process and competition, persons who are capable of looking to the future and putting everything new and advanced to practical use. A creative, innovative approach to things is characteristic, for example, of officers V. Fedorov, R. Rayev, and E. Marchenkov. Their work style consists of a constant search for new, more effective techniques and methods of accomplishing training tasks. It is evident how this influences the results of their men's labor even from the fact that the command post set up under their direction enables crews to accomplish the most complex tasks with excellent quality. They utilize modern computer hardware at the command post, and many processes are automated, which substantially reduces time required to achieve performance standards and improves quality of performance.

A sense of the new, just as other officer professional qualities, is grounded on ideological conditioning, an awareness of the depth of responsibility resting on the officer for training and indoctrination of his men, and securement of a high degree of subunit and unit combat readiness. This quality is not inborn; it is developed and perfected in the process of an officer's entire professional activities. And it is possible to instill in an officer a propensity for innovation and initiative by means of planned, sequential effort, by creating at training exercises and drills conditions maximally promoting development of innovative thinking and polishing of those professional qualities which primarily determine his work style, his approach to his job, and his commander characteristics.

Of course it is impossible to instill a sense of the new if an officer does not possess professional competence and only possesses superficial knowledge of the nature and specifics of today's combat, the capabilities and modes of employment of existing weaponry. But it is also obvious that any efforts will be in vain if an officer, even a well-trained officer, constantly encounters in training classes, at exercises and drills compromises with realism and unnecessary relaxation of demands, if an unnecessarily simplified situation prevails in these activities, a situation which does not demand intellectual effort and sharpness of thinking, enabling one to gain easy victories over "aggressor" aircraft. Perhaps the surest road to success is to give some independence to trainees, to involve them actively in solving difficult problems which demand a nonstandard approach, initiative, and innovativeness.

The commander's personal example helps develop in officers a sense of the new to a great degree. If his activities are permeated by a spirit of innovativeness and constant innovative search, then as a rule the same kind of work style will characterize his subordinates.

My job brings me into frequent contact with Maj Gen Avn A. Morin. An excellent expert in military affairs and a vigorous individual by nature, he is always full of new plans and ideas. Many innovations in the training process and in methods of employing combat equipment and weapons have been adopted in the subunits on his recommendations. Comrade Morin always carefully examines an innovator suggestion, finds that grain of potential efficiency, and suggests how to improve the idea and achieve its practical implementation.

It is very important for a senior-level officer to notice the emerging shoots of a new innovation and to help them gain strength. An officer works with great diligence and enthusiasm if his valuable suggestions are given support and recognition! And on the contrary, enthusiasm dies out when, due to the sluggishness of a given official, a serviceman is unable to utilize his innovative capabilities in full measure and to put a useful idea into practice. But unfortunately this still is sometimes encountered. One must also consider the fact that at times the new is timid and indecisive in revealing its appearance. It seems less effective than the old method, and not every commander has sufficient perspicaciousness and innovative boldness to realize its value and help it unfold. Some people, upon becoming acquainted with a new innovation in the field of combat training, will reason as follows: it is tempting of course, but it will require so much work and bother. No, as long as delay can be tolerated, we can get along with the old way. Delay can indeed sometimes be tolerated. But sooner or later one must pay for such indifference with last-minute rush effort, unwarranted exertion of energy and resources, and economic expenditures. And that is not all.

Indifference to the new leads to losses in realization of the individual's creative capabilities, and this inevitably results in losses to society -- both economic and moral. One cannot expect a great deal of an officer who has lost his taste for the new, who has become transformed into a passive executing agent. Sometimes such an officer does work hard and seems to put his heart and soul into his work, but the results of his labor are not satisfactory -- they are less than they could have been.

Recently we inspected facilities at a certain unit. We were proudly shown training classrooms, which looked like physics laboratories and were equipped with various working models, simulators, and training devices. All these things had been built by innovative individuals from equipment which was no longer usable. A great deal of labor was invested here. But how useful was it? The simulators and training devices were obsolete; the specialists here are learning to operate more modern equipment and are working on problems which are much complex than those which the equipment retired from service had once been capable of handling. Of course this should have been considered when equipping the classrooms; the creative thinking of the innovators should have been focused on developing models and simulators which are fully in conformity with today's demands....

How many missile crew commanders have simulated combat with "aggressor" aircraft in their practical activities, and how many times, saturating combat with diversified elements maximally approaching actual combat! It would seem that everything has been long since devised, that all reserve potential has

been utilized, with nothing new to be discovered. And yet they approached the same questions of tactics from a different standpoint, with other criteria, and it became obvious that new combat work methods were needed, as well as different techniques of utilizing equipment. Effective and reliable techniques had to be found and put to the practical test. And such methods were found by Sr Lts V. Okorokov and I. Rezayev. But not only an inquiring and clever mind was needed in order to become enthusiastic over this new project and to complete it successfully. Also required was a heightened sense of the new, just as it is required wherever problems are being solved which are connected with increasing combat readiness. And this is a concern of everybody entrusted with such a responsible task as defense of our Soviet homeland.

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CSO: 1801/077

GROUND FORCES

TANK UNITS: DEFENSIVE TACTICS AGAINST HELICOPTERS EXAMINED

Moscow ZNAMENOSSETS in Russian No 9, Sep 82 (signed to press 23 Aug 82) pp 6-7

[Article by Gds Sr Sgt A. Bespalov, Red-Banner Kiev Military District: "Tank Attacked by Helicopter"]

[Text] I recall that at the very beginning of my military service, at a certain tactical exercise I was to carry out a secondary mission. Fire-support helicopters were the most impressive sight for me and other novice tank crewmen. They suddenly appeared over the battlefield from behind the treeline and swiftly headed for the tanks.

"That is a really formidable weapon," I thought to myself. "Can anybody stand up to it?" As if in reply to my question, that evening regimental radio reported a bit of news which delighted me: the commander of an excellent-rated tank, Sgt S. Primakov, had downed two "aggressor" helicopters in the mock battle. We then heard from the loudspeaker the voice of the hero of the day. Sergeant Primakov related his success in a simple and easy to understand manner and, most important, convincingly. He said how important it is for tankers to maintain continuous air observation promptly to spot "aggressor" helicopters in the sky and to engage them skillfully.

I now have behind me many combat encounters with this dangerous air target, in the course of which I have gained certain experience, which I would like to share with young tankers.

Why did I recall this incident? So that young tankers will realize from the very outset that one can successfully combat even such antitank weapons as helicopters if one possesses excellent mastery of one's weapons and can skillfully employ them in battle.

Following are the helicopter's strong points: its high mobility, unlimited maneuver capabilities, and considerable range of its antitank guided missiles; its weak points include the fact that it is a large target, that it gives itself away (by the considerable noise it generates and its appearance high above the ground), its vulnerability even to small-arms fire, plus a number of others.

The time required to accomplish a fire mission is the decisive factor in engagement of an enemy helicopter by a tank crew. We seek in every area ways to shorten this time, including acquisition of solid skills in early detection, mastery of the most effective techniques and methods of aiming, delivery of fire with the antiaircraft machinegun, and adjustment of fire.






It has become an immutable rule that prior to combat the subunit commander, coordinating matters of teamwork and cooperation on a terrain model, must communicate to tank crews the likely avenues of hostile helicopter approach to the entire depth of advance. This creates a certain combat mood and protects tankers against all kinds of surprises.

As a rule helicopters appear over the battlefield suddenly, utilizing various cover when approaching the firing point: forest, river valleys, deep ravines, hills, etc. Anyone spotting helicopters should immediately report the threat by radio with clear text. All crews shall quickly ready to repulse an attack.

It takes me no more than 3 seconds, for example, to approximate-aim my anti-aircraft machinegun at a target. An ideal situation is when a helicopter is heading directly for my tank. Its aspect is zero, that is, I can apply the procedure of firing in place at a moving target -- placing the crosshairs on the center of the target. Speaking of aspect, the more precisely the tank commander determines the helicopter's angle of attack, the better the results of defensive fire. Some clever fellows in our subunit have built a fairly simple and very convenient training device, which enables us to practice determining various target aspects and thus to acquire solid skills. It consists of a helicopter model mounted on a tall post which freely rotates on its axis together with a pointer with arrowheads on the ends (Figure 1). The instrument is essentially a circle with two opposing scales: one indicates the helicopter's angles of attack in degrees, while the other indicates target aspects. The instructor turns the helicopter model in any direction. The trainee, positioned from 6 to 10 meters from the device, must visually estimate the helicopter's position and express it in an angle value and aspect. If he makes a mistake, the instructor permits him to approach the device and determine the actual readings. After five or six such drills, the men acquire fairly stable skills. In our subunit there is also a table of fixed principal angles of helicopter attack in degrees and aspects (see table). It also enables tank crewmen to develop good visual estimating ability, essential for engaging an air target.



Figure 1.

angle aspect	0	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{2}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{4}{4}$
					
угол	0	15°	30°	45°	90°

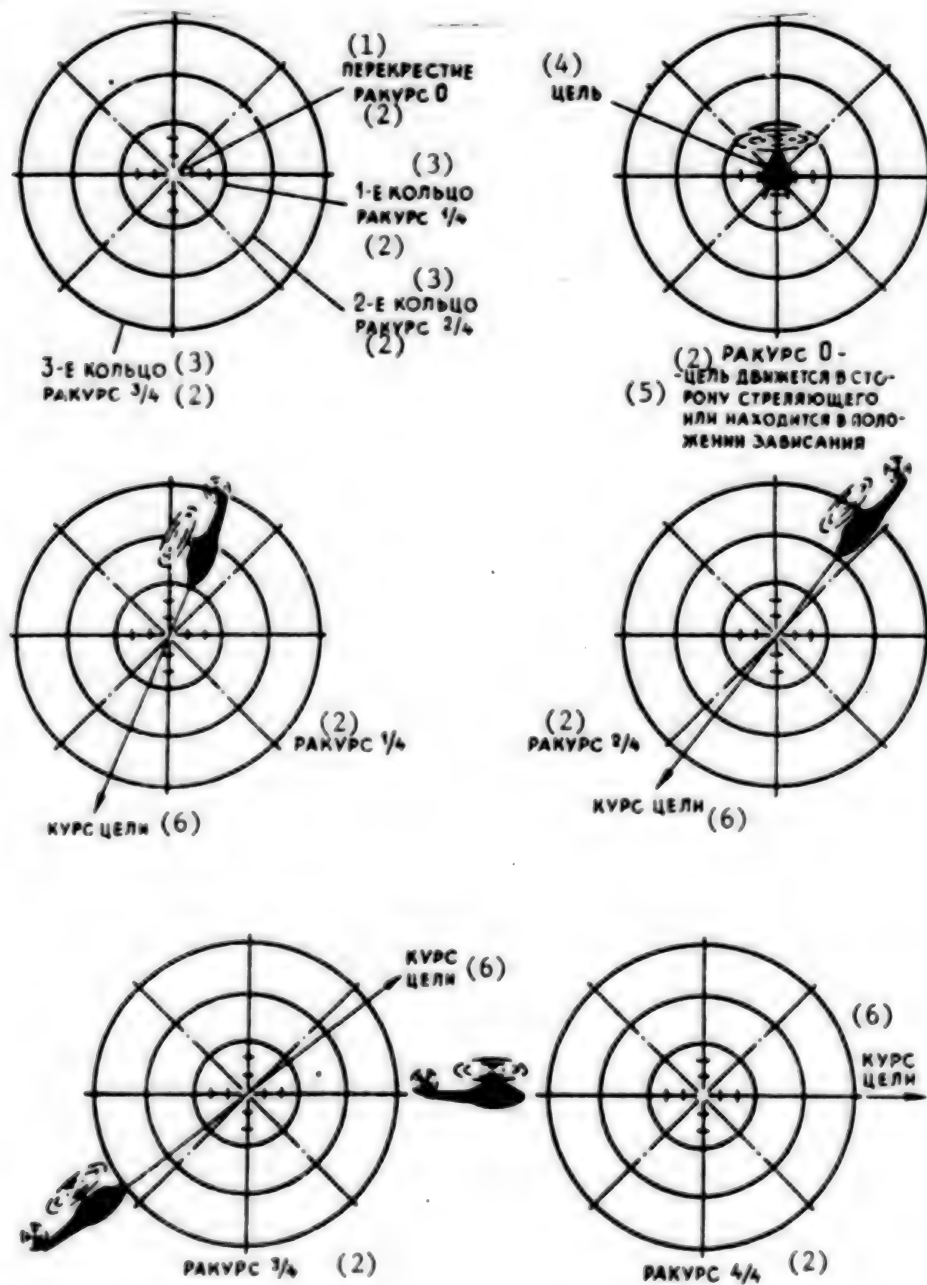


Figure 2.

Key to Figure 2 on preceding page:

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 1. Crosshairs | 5. Target moving toward gunner
or hovering |
| 2. Aspect | 6. Target course |
| 3. Ring | |
| 4. Target | |

When helicopters appear over the battlefield, I quickly select that target which is heading for my tank, since it has a zero aspect or close to it, which facilitates delivery of accurate fire. But such an opportunity will not always be available, and one must have the ability to perform correctly in any situation. A very convenient moment for opening fire is when a helicopter hovers for a number of seconds (20-40) to take precise aim at its selected armored target. In this case, regardless of aspect, one should place the crosshairs on the center of the target and commence fire for effect.

It is a more difficult task to place fire on a helicopter traveling at a certain angle of attack and at high speed. Here the tank crewman is helped by excellent knowledge of gunnery procedures and solid skills in operating the antiaircraft machinegun's aiming mechanism, honed to automatic response. Without these qualities one can hardly count on success.

In Figure 2 I have schematically indicated the value of gunsight graticule aspect angle rings with a helicopter speed of 100 meters per second (360 km/h), as well as aiming variants at targets with different angles of attack. I can state from my own experience that the most important thing in aiming a weapon is to put the aspect ring segment as precisely as possible on the target so that its imaginary line of flight runs precisely through the crosshairs (Figure 2). The greater the aspect angle, the greater the helicopter's angular velocity will be, and this means that more vigorous actions will be required of the gunner in operating the aiming device, both in manual and automatic modes.

As soon as I am alerted by radio that a helicopter has been sighted or if I have spotted a helicopter myself, I immediately order the driver: "Stop!" Target location just takes a few seconds. I pick up the target and take accurate aim. I fire a short (3-4 rounds) ranging burst. Since the gunner is permitted to determine for himself the distribution of tracer rounds in the belt, I put a large percentage of these rounds at the very beginning of the belt. This way it is easier to perform ranging, especially on a sunny day. If the first trace is off target, I quickly adjust and squeeze off a long burst, for effect.

Of course it would be erroneous to assume that an engagement between a tank and an attacking helicopter will always follow this pattern: the person manning the antiaircraft machinegun spots the target promptly, performs a precise calculation, aims, squeezes -- and the helicopter goes down. The following is also possible. For various reasons the tank crewman misses the helicopter. This means that the helicopter will bring all its firepower to bear on the tank. Thus the task is to nullify the delivery of hostile fire. A well trained, smoothly functioning tank crew is capable of accomplishing this. How?

Once again I shall cite my own experience. If I have missed a helicopter while it was hovering, I immediately order the driver: "Advance!" To stay put means to present a fine target for the helicopter. The driver should possess complete mastery of his maneuver, advancing to the next stopping point at high speed, sharply changing direction right and left.

Now let us assume that the helicopter has fired an antitank missile from a range of, say, 3000 meters. There is no need to panic, for the missile will be in flight from 15 to 20 seconds! This is plenty of time for the driver to execute an evasive maneuver.

In short, no matter how potent a modern helicopter with its formidable weapons may be, it can be successfully engaged by a tank crew which possesses a high degree of proficiency and excellent moral-fighting qualities.

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CSO: 1801/019

GROUND FORCES

LASER GUNNERY SIMULATOR TRAINER DESCRIBED

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 9, Sep 82 (signed to press 23 Aug 82) pp 14-15

[Article by Candidate of Technical Sciences Col K. Babitskiy: "Laser Simulator"]

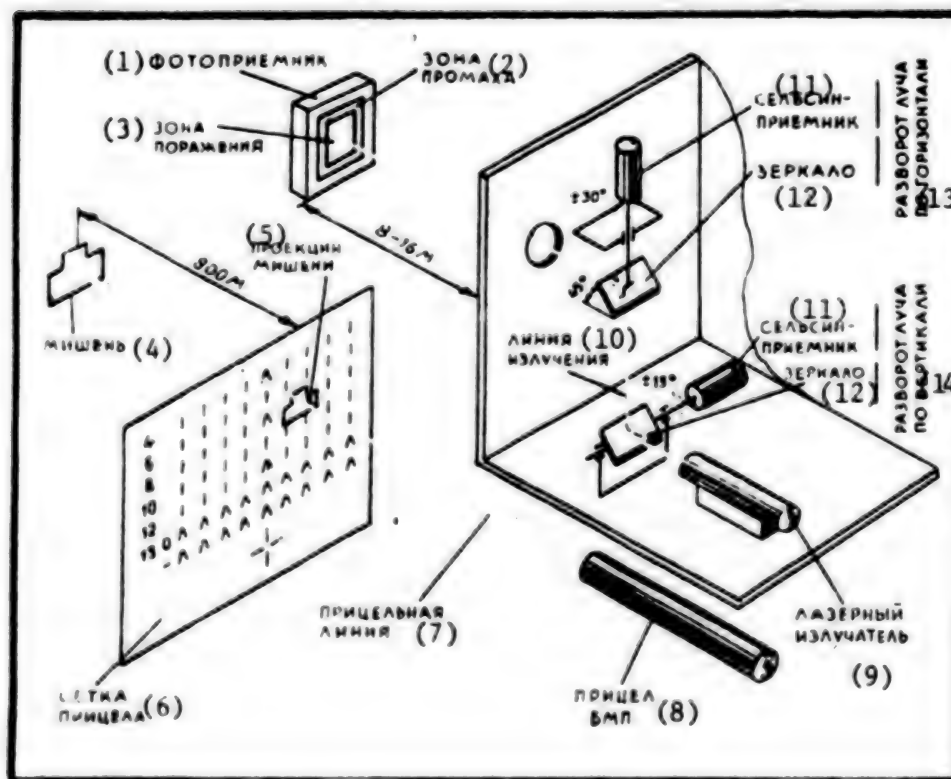
[Text] The gunnery practice for BMP [Infantry Fighting Vehicle] commanders and gunner-operators began, as always, on schedule and in an organized manner. The instructor, the platoon commander, gave the crews the necessary commands by intercom, and groups of targets popped up on the range, for each of the three fighting vehicles. Through the speaker on his console the officer listened to the commands and crew member reports.

The number 1 and the hit indicator light lit up on the instructor's console. This meant that the crew of the first vehicle had hit the target with the first round. The "Miss Left" light lit up on the second panel of the console. The platoon commander instructed the gunner-operator to report his initial gun data. It seems that he had made the windage correction in the wrong direction. The second round was an over. A range correction was made. The third round was a hit.

The crew of the third vehicle had fired two misses. The platoon commander intervened. He ascertained that the gunner-operator, receiving the command to destroy a multiple target, was firing at a machinegun, ignoring an antitank gun. The instructor reminded him that it is essential to fire first at the principal target. The exercise was completed.

Training conducted with motorized riflemen on a laser simulator trainer (LDU-7) indicated that the training simulator for IFV gunner-operators possesses many virtues. It enables one objectively to rate the men's ability to detect targets on actual terrain, to select the main target, to determine range, to specify initial gun data taking requisite corrections into account, to aim the weapon at the target, and to fire. Thanks to the exhaustive information provided on the crews' actions, the instructor can quickly analyze firing results and when necessary give instructions on correcting mistakes, using the loudspeaker system.

The operating principle of the training device (see diagram) is based on recording deviations of a laser beam aligned in advance with the line of aim. The gunner-operator, firing at targets located at realistic distances on the gunnery range, places the aiming mark on the target, figuring in any necessary



Key to Diagram on preceding page:

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Photodetector | 8. IFV gunsight |
| 2. Miss zone | 9. Laser emitter |
| 3. Hit zone | 10. Laser line |
| 4. Target | 11. Selsyn transformer |
| 5. Target projection | 12. Mirror |
| 6. Sight graticule | 13. Horizontal beam deflection |
| 7. Line of aim | 14. Vertical beam deflection |

If the fire mission is handled incorrectly, a photodetector records the miss, and one of the indicator lights on the console comes on, corresponding to an over, short, right or left deviation.

The simulator device contains three laser emitters with beam deflection mechanisms, three photodetectors, instructor's console, and connecting cables.

The emitter with beam deflection mechanism is mounted on the IFV antitank guided missile launcher bracket (see photo). A commercially-manufactured LG-78 gas laser, which can operate in continuous and pulse modes, is used as the emitter. When the gun (machinegun) electric firing button is pushed, a light pulse approximately 1 second in duration is emitted. This light beam is reflected from the surface of two tilting mirrors placed at an angle of 45°, and exits through a window toward the photodetector.

For preliminary alignment of the laser line with the line of aim, the beam is shifted by the tilting mirrors within a range of $\pm 30^\circ$ in the horizontal plane and $\pm 15^\circ$ in the vertical plane. The mirrors are moved by a turn mechanism with two selsyn transformers which are electrically connected to transmitting selsyns in the instructor's console.

The instructor's console is designed to control the operation of three separate emitters, as well as to receive information on the actions of the crews of three IFVs. Mounted on its front panel are three identical sets of controls and indicators. With them the instructor can shift the laser beam in the vertical and horizontal planes, apply power to each laser emitter and photodetector, set pulse or continuous laser emission mode, switch on laser emission, and also alter the size of the photodetector electronic target.

The size of the electronic target should be such that a hit is recorded when the aiming mark of a regular IFV gunsight falls within the target outline. For this the electronic target contains a set of phototransistors connected into 13 light-sensitive sectors. Various combinations of connecting up these sectors are produced with the aid of "Target size" switches. They make it possible to establish the dimensions of the zones recording hit and miss, in conformity with types of targets and target range.

When the laser beam strikes one of the electronic target phototransistors, the light signal is converted into an electrical signal, is amplified and is fed into the display unit. Corresponding indicator lamps light up on the console and at the IFV gunner-operator's station.

The instructor and the gunner-operator can "erase" the obtained information by pushing a reset button. The indicator lights go out.

IFV crews ready the laser simulator for practice under the supervision of the subunit commander. The squad leader (vehicle commander) and gunner-operator mount the laser emitter on the AT missile launcher bracket and hook a cable to it, which runs into the IFV through the open missile hatch.

The driver mounts a photodetector on a tripod in front of the IFV at a distance of 8, 12, or 16 meters from the muzzle. This distance is determined in advance by the platoon commander in relation to the types of targets at which simulated fire is to be delivered. The photodetector should be placed in such a manner that it cannot be seen in the gunner-operator's sight, with the plane of the electronic target perpendicular to the laser beam.

The instructor's console is placed at the IFV range command post next to the target equipment control console. The target range is readied in advance by the range operator in conformity with the scheduled training activities.

Familiarizing himself with the target situation created for the exercise, the instructor proceeds to ready the simulator. We shall examine the preparation procedure in the example of one training problem for the first training drill.

Firing is to be done at an emplaced tank (Target 12) at a range of 800 meters, with ambient temperature +20°C; 15 m/s crosswind from the right. The instructor gives the command to display the target, and either he or his assistant aims the gun, employing IFV gunnery procedures. The position of the line of aim is shown in the diagram.

After this, holding aim on the target, the instructor punches buttons on his console to aim the laser beam, switched on continuous mode, at the center of the electronic target. The resulting readings on the "horizontal" and "vertical" indicators on the console panel, which indicate the coordinates of the laser line, are recorded on a special fluoroplastic disk.

To check that the problem has been properly set up, the instructor switches the laser to pulse mode, misaligns and reestablishes the indicator readings. Then, pushing the "Fire" button on the console panel, he takes several test firings. Each time the central hit indicator light should come on.

The simulator is set up in like manner for firing at all other targets.

As practical experience has shown, employment of the LTU-7 laser simulator in weapon training makes it possible to reduce by 33-50 percent the time required to form the same IFV gunnery skills as crews require when training by the conventional method. Another important factor is a reduced expenditure of ammunition required for training IFV gunner-operators and commanders.

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NAVAL FORCES

NAVAL AVIATION TRAINING

ASW Training Flight Reported

Moscow TRUD in Russian 9 Sep 82 p 4

[Article by Yu. Dmitriev: "Over the Ocean"]

[Text] We were already in flight when the coastal cliffs melted away in the damp foggy morning haze and we noticed heavy broken waves under the wing. On board the aircraft an urgent radio transmission was received. Higher headquarters ordered, "...follow to square N., coordinates.... Carry out a raid, search, and destruction of the nuclear submarine of the 'enemy'...."

Major Gennadiy Kudryavtsev, commander of the amphibious aircraft, moved the receiver of the SPU (aircraft communication system) closer to his chin. Now, during the least change in the elements of the flight and raid, he would continuously have to give commands, correct the readings on the instruments, listen to the reports of the crew members--of his co-pilot Lieutenant Sergey Kostin, and his airborne radio operator Leonid Chaplin. And, of course, the most vital and crucial conversations--with the navigator of the craft, Vladimir Savva, a dark-haired likeable captain.

By the navigator, sitting in the very nose of the aircraft, in a snowwhite glass cabin, were a number of instruments, and various pieces of apparatus, tables, knobs and levers. Captain Savva, raising himself from his seat every now and then, handled nearly every calculation, gave the data for setting the course, while at the same time warning the commander of the impending maneuver and change in speed and altitude. He is an experienced, knowledgeable person. Several years ago, he completed the military Aviation School for Navigators imeni Proletariat Donbass in Voroshilovgrad and became a first-class specialist.

Yes, the whole crew is the pride of the unit. Major Kudryavtsev himself, coming from a grain-growing peasant family and born in a large steppe village near Kustanay, dreamed of the sky and the sea since childhood. His father, frontal radio technician Georgiy Ivanovich, having fought at the walls of the blockade of Leningrad and in the forests of Belorussia, and having returned to his native home with a fragment from an enemy mine in his head, bid his son to become an armed protector of the Motherland. Thus, Gennadiy attended the Orenburg Higher Military Aviation School imeni I.S. Polbin, which he successfully completed.

At the disposal of the crew--an excellent fighting machine, constructed according to the last word in domestic science and technology. The airplane, speaking directly, is of special construction--with a watertight, reliable buoyant fuselage.

Before the flight we visited on board that turboprop aircraft, able to take off from a sea area and a land-based airfield. Under its wings--dark green cigar-shaped floats, on the bottom--so-called ledges, planning steps for lowering the water resistance during takeoff and landing. The wheel chassis, in the event necessity arises, advances upward, so that water doesn't get into the air intake. By the entrance to the commander's cabin, a heavy anchor cast in brass is visible. You don't see such a thing on the ordinary fighter or bomber. In special wrapping--orange pneumatic life-jackets, compact boats, and rafts. This--for unforeseen events.

Fortunately, the crew of this unit flies skillfully.

They are used to the fact that under the wing there is always one scene--a restless and monotonous wavy endlessness, not one "peg" for the navigator's orientation. All hopes rest only on the instruments and the crew. And now, after several hours of the flight, Captain Savva reported on the SPU, "We have entered the region. We can descend; I am turning on the magnetometer."

With the help of these supersensitive instruments the crew found the target. In this instance--a fast-moving submarine, concealed in the depths. But to spot it--that, perhaps, is only half the job. Now the important matter--to determine all aspects of the craft's movement. And here, sound buoys came to the crew's help.

Imagine a huge bird, soaring in the skies, and suddenly sharply swooping down below. That is how the steel amphibian sharply decreased altitude and direction of flight when its instruments fixed the target.

Everyone's look was turned to the instruments, to the locator screens. The navigator pulled the lilac trigger, and a series of oblong buoys, reminding one of shell cases, were concealed in a semicircle in the heavy leaden waves. Acoustics instantly makes itself manifest. Data from the buoys was received immediately in the on-board receiving apparatus. Now the underwater craft was already in a strong vise.

Flights over the oceans, even routine ones, always were the lot of courageous and experienced aviators. To find a submarine in the depths of the sea is not an easy task. This is a mission which is placed before an especially prepared crew. And it has been fulfilled in this unit, famous from the time of the Great Patriotic War. The head of the political section of the unit, himself a naval aviation navigator by specialty, called the names of the best aerial antisubmarine personnel--1st class military aviators Sergey Khanabeyev, Pyotr Matviyenko, and the commander of the crew, Captain Aleksandr Luk'yanchikov.

In the museum of military glory of the unit is all of its heroic path; from the day of its formation in the prewar years to the present. During the war with

imperialistic Japan in 1945, naval aviators bombed enemy positions, provided headquarters with valuable intelligence information, and landed daring troops. Then, in September of 1945, the unit was decorated with the Order of the Red Banner for military merit.

Guards Cruiser Training Activities

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Nov 82 p 1

[Article by Captain-Lieutenant v. Nechesa: "Guards Handwriting"]

[Text] The approaching thick fog suddenly cut off the helicopter's flight approach to the flagship. The aviators conducting reconnaissance were in a difficult situation. Then, on board our Guards rocket cruiser "Varyag," orders were issued by the flag-officer to prepare for an emergency landing of the helicopter.

Such an event was not anticipated by the training plan. But the autumn ocean is full of surprises. Our cruiser, at that moment was located closer than the other ships to the aerial reconnaissance plane. The boatswain's crew of the "Varyag," as always, was equal to the task.

The chief boatswain of the cruiser, Guards Warrant Officer v. Malofeyev, skillfully guided his subordinates and the sailors of the rocket artillery military unit (VCh-2) coming to help them. The deck was covered quickly with an antiskid net. Everything was ready for the helicopter's landing.

The sailors warmly welcomed their military friends. When the weather cleared, the aviators took off into the sky. Bidding us goodbye, they assured us: "You rescued us, and we won't let you down."

...The cruiser made ready for rocket combat. In these minutes our sailors were markedly similar to each other. They all were consumed with a special anticipation; they were all alike--thirsting for victory. We needed this victory very much. All the preceding tasks were fulfilled successfully; the ship was among the leaders of socialist competition in the formation.

Now the entire crew, as they say, are working to be rocketeers who expect to bring a distinctive concluding feature for the year. The strenuous work of the crew should be awarded only by an excellent rating. The rocketeers stated this firmly at party and Komsomol meetings, which are held in a military unit on the eve of training.

The fighting men of the first battery, commanded by Guards Lieutenant A. Shepetko, act quickly and skillfully at their posts. The young commander is only in his second year of military service, but he already has several precise rocket firings behind him. Aleksandr has a good feature--a closeness to his subordinates. I always see him with the sailors. And they are drawn to him, sharing all that is in their soul. They know that in return they will receive sincere interest and that the officer will protect, advise, and help them. In the political studies, which Shepetko conducts, deep discussions are

held on recommended themes for study, closely tied with the life of the country and of the ship. And still, the officers are noted for their love of the profession of a rocketeer and a striving to impart this same love to their subordinates.

Before this training there was an urgent need to make very complex arrangements. The commander of the cruiser, Guards Captain 2d Rank L. Derenkov, having consulted with the commander of VCh-2, Guards Captain-Lieutenant G. Sergeyev, came to the conclusion that Shepetko and his subordinates would manage the arrangements themselves.

Guards Lieutenant A. Shepetko, Guards Warrant Officers A. Sidorenko and R. Skakun, recalled what responsibility was placed on them. But they were confident in their knowledge, practical experience and skill. The difficult work, demanding delicate precision, was accomplished successfully, so that a new charge of energy was given to the rocketeers.

Illuminating the cruiser with a blinding flash, the rocket flew to its distant target, hidden in the evening sky. Guards Warrant Officer A. Semenov saw it well on the screen. Then he confessed that before the firing he was worried, but calmed down, barely sitting up to the instrument. Semenov recently finished the technicians' school, and has served with us for several months, but quickly became militarily proficient. He persistently trained for hours on the simulator and perfected his theoretical knowledge. The warrant officer was proud that his grandfather was an artilleryman during the war, that he served as a warrant officer in the rocket unit of his father. The younger Semenov was a worthy representative of the Semenov dynasty.

"When the rocket struck the target, I felt a great joy," he said after the firing.

The crew of the Guards cruiser "Varyag," meets the 65th anniversary of the Great October and the 60th year of the formation of the USSR with new successes in socialist competition.

12198
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STRATEGIC ROCKET FORCES

APPEAL BY MISSILE UNIT FOR HIGHER COMBAT READINESS

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Nov 82 p 1

[Article: "To Heighten Vigilance, To Secure Reliably the Safety of the Motherland"]

[Text] Approaching the celebration of a significant event--the 60th year of the formation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, a holiday which all progressive mankind will note together with the Soviet people--the fighting men of the Soviet Armed Forces are turning their thoughts to the Leninist party, which stood at the source of the creation of the USSR and which wisely will lead the peoples of our country along the path of building communism. They will make every effort to mark the glorious jubilee by considerable successes in fulfilling the historical decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress.

For the realization of the grandiose plans outlined by the party, a durable peace is necessary. Lately, however, the international situation, through the fault of the imperialists, and in the first place that of the reactionary circles of the United States, has been aggravated sharply. They have unleashed an unprecedented arms race, especially nuclear, attempting to achieve military superiority over the USSR and the other socialist countries.

The fighting men of the armed forces still more closely rallying around the CPSU Central Committee vigilantly keep watch for the insidious intrigues of the enemies of peace, and are in constant military readiness, guaranteeing the rapid repulse of any aggressor.

The decisions of the November (1982) Plenum of the CC CPSU, and materials of the 7th session, 10th convocation of the USSR Supreme Soviet have summoned new patriotic enthusiasm and a more ardent striving to make higher advances in military perfection from the personnel of the army and navy. These days meetings of personnel in units and on ships are being conducted, in which socialist obligations for the new training year are being discussed and accepted. Such a meeting was held in an outstanding unit of the Strategic Rocket Forces, commanded by Lt Col A. Pavlov.

Combining their affairs and plans with the demands of the party, with the labor aspirations of the entire Soviet nation, and deeply understanding the tasks established by the minister of defense of the USSR for 1983, the rocketeers decided to display initiative in the development of socialist competition, to carry further the baton of the glorious deeds.

In the appeal, accepted in the general meeting, they called for all rocketeers to labor in the new training year still more persistently and fruitfully, to heighten steadfastly the military readiness.

We publish this appeal.

An "appeal" of the personnel of the Nth rocket unit to fighting men of the Strategic Rocket Forces:

Military comrades, friends!

The joyous, festive holiday nears--the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR. The Soviet nation under the leadership of the Communist Party is approaching the glorious jubilee with a feeling of high patriotic pride for the great achievements and victories gained in the building of communism. Successes in the struggle for fulfilling the historic decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress, growth of the economic and defensive might of our country, improvement in the people's well-being, summon up in us a feeling of pride in our socialist Motherland, a new surge of creative initiative and energy, a striving to achieve higher results in our military work.

We strategic rocketeers, with all our hearts, warmly approve and completely support the Leninist course of our native Communist Party.

Deeply understanding how much more complicated and dangerous is the international situation, conscious of the inseparability of the tasks of strengthening peace and raising the defensive capability of the country, we consider it our high patriotic duty to unswervingly put into practice the demands of the party--in every way possible to heighten vigilance and reliably to secure the safety of our Motherland.

In the past training year the personnel of our unit actively participated in the All-Army socialist competition for a worthy celebration of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR. We completely fulfilled every obligation and took a noticeable step on the path of raising military readiness, strengthening military discipline and organization. The unit obtained the title of outstanding.

The decisions of the November (1982) Plenum of the CC CPSU and the 7th session, 10th convocation of the USSR Supreme Soviet has summoned from us a new surge of creative energy, a more ardent striving to make still higher advances in military perfection.

Combining our affairs and plans with the demands of the party, with the working aspirations of the entire Soviet nation, and deeply understanding the tasks established by the minister of defense of the USSR for the 1983 training year, we turn to all personnel of the Strategic Rocket Forces with an appeal to display socialist competition in the new training year under the motto, "To heighten vigilance, to secure reliably the safety of our Motherland!"

Having reviewed the tasks standing before our unit, and weighing their possibilities, we take on the following obligations:

To strengthen successes attained in military and political preparedness. To confirm the title of outstanding unit in the 1983 training year. Still more actively to wage the struggle for further heightening vigilance and military preparedness. To carry out military duty outstandingly, to attain high coordination of all military crews, the further exceeding of norms, and reduction of the time of bringing subunits and units to military readiness. To conduct special tactical exercises and to fulfill all military training tasks with the rating of 'outstanding' and 'good.'

To provide complete and qualitative accomplishment of plans of military and political preparedness. In all subunits to widely develop the struggle for outstanding results of every day's military training. Each officer, warrant officer and sergeant is to be proficient in the foremost methods of training and education of subordinates, is to prepare carefully for exercises and training, and is to conduct them vigorously in the spirit of competition, without simplification or indulgence. To put into service the young fighting men in a short period of time. Every soldier in his first year of service is to master his specialty to perfection.

To evaluate on principal and strictly the results of socialist competition, to make maximum use of its opportunity for the training of outstanding subunits, of outstanding military and political preparedness. To increase the number of outstandings in training by 7 percent. By the end of the training year to have 60 percent of subunits and crews outstanding.

To continue to study deeply and to realize in practical matters the Leninist ideological-theoretical heritage, the decisions of the 26th party congress, the plenum of its Central Committee, and the instructions of the CPSU on questions of further strengthening the defensive capability of our country. Tirelessly to foster in ourselves the best qualities of a Soviet fighting man--ideological conviction, political vigilance, high consciousness, faithfulness to the patriotic and international duty. To cherish and enrich the revolutionary, military and labor traditions of the Communist Party, the Soviet nation and its armed forces. To study persistently the history of the CPSU, to propagandize the accomplishments of the country under the leadership of the Leninist Party and the advantages of the Soviet way of life. To mark the 40th anniversary since the notable victories of the armed forces of the USSR in the years of the Great Patriotic War with shock military work.

Every soldier, sergeant, warrant officer and officer is to master to perfection military equipment and arms, to exploit them correctly and to maintain them in perfect condition. To conduct this work under the motto "New equipment--a higher level of its mastering." To carry out qualitatively regulated work and other types of technical service. To attain in the unit 100 percent rated, including 60 percent masters of military affairs among the officers, and 70 percent 1st and 2d class specialists among all the personnel. To ensure that 90 percent of the military crews are led by masters of military affairs. By the end of the training year all soldiers, sergeants, warrant officers and officers are to experience a related specialty. To raise the quality and effectiveness of military-technical propaganda. Continually to improve the material training base, to instill not less than 16 rationalization suggestions.

To enrich the military traditions of the rocketeers, to cultivate pride in belonging to the Strategic Rocket Forces. To unite the military collectives, to heighten their responsibility for the honor of their subunit and unit. To know outstandingly and to implement strictly the general service regulations of the armed forces of the USSR. To observe strictly the norms of communist morals and ethics, to fight for strict military discipline and order, model appearance and military bearing. To strengthen military comradeship, to help each other in military training and service.

All Komsomol members and young fighting men are to steadfastly struggle for the fulfillment of the decisions of the 19th Congress of the All-Union Lenin Young Communist League (VLKCM), and to continue actively to participate in the All-Union Leninist test, "Decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress--in life!" To win, so that every Komsomol member will be an example in service, training and in military discipline.

To protect in every way possible national and military property, to expend material-technical means rationally. To achieve 7 percent savings in fuel by the end of the year, and in electrical energy--5 percent. To maintain in outstanding condition training and living areas, and the material-training base.

To participate actively in the sociopolitical, mass culture and athletic work. To struggle steadfastly to transform the military garrison into a town of model order and high culture. To develop artistic independence, to strive for a high showing in sports. To prepare 92 percent of the rated sportsmen and badge-holders of the military-athletic complex by the end of the year.

Military friends!

There is not a nobler task than to serve faithfully your nation, the Soviet Motherland, no more honorable duty than to protect reliably the great achievements of socialism. We appeal to all military men of the Strategic Rocket Forces with a call to mark the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR by new successes in military and political preparation, to fulfill with honor the tasks, established by the minister of defense of the USSR for the 1983 training year, and socialist obligations.

Competing, we still more selflessly will work for the fulfillment of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress, to preserve reliably the peaceful constructive work of the Soviet people.

12198

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DOSAAF AND MILITARY COMMISSARIATS

LIEUTENANT GENERAL MOSYAYKIN ON ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE REVOLUTION

Moscow ZA RULEM in Russian No 11, Nov 82 (signed to press 28 Sep 82) pp 1-2

[Article by Lt Gen V. Mosyaykin, deputy chairman of the Central Committee of USSR DOSAAF: "Guarding the Achievements of October"]

[Text] Every October celebration has its own distinctive marks, its own unique features. Our worker class, kolkhoz peasantry, intelligentsia, and Soviet servicemen are celebrating the 65th anniversary of the great proletarian revolution in an atmosphere of successful implementation of the historic decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums. With their selfless labor and creative productivity they are demonstrating again and again their monolithic unity behind our party and its Leninist Central Committee.

This year preparations to celebrate the 65th anniversary of the October Revolution coincided with preparations for another important date -- the 60th anniversary of establishment of the USSR, the world's first unified multinational worker and peasant state. The close unity and firm friendship of the more than 100 nationalities and ethnic groups which inhabit our country were a logical result of the victory of the Great October Revolution and the entire subsequent development of the Soviet society. It is a result of truly titanic efforts on the part of our Communist Party, which wisely and consistently strove toward its stated goal -- establishment and consolidation of a Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. An important place in these activities has always been occupied by matters pertaining to the defense capability of our socialist state and concern to achieve a close union of Soviet republics to defend the homeland against the encroachments of imperialism.

On these days we turn with special sentiments to the behests of the leader of our party and state, V. I. Lenin, pertaining to defense of the socialist homeland: "...Having commenced our peacetime building," he stated, "we shall make every effort to continue it without interruption. At the same time, comrades, be on the alert; carefully preserve the defense capability of our country and our Red Army...."

Today as well, carrying out responsible tasks of economic construction and persistently implementing a peace-seeking foreign policy, our Union does not forget for a single moment about the threat of another world war which proceeds

from the camp of the enemies of peace, particularly from the U.S. military establishment. The Communist Party and the Soviet Government are working tirelessly to strengthen our Armed Forces.

In his report entitled "50 Years of Great Victories by Socialism," CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Comrade Leonid Il'ich Brezhnev stated: "We realize the lessons of the past and are doing everything to ensure that nobody can take us unawares. But if any madmen do dare to encroach upon the security of the Soviet nation and on our allies, the Soviet people will stand firm. From whatever quarter such an encroachment may come -- from the north or south, from west or east, the aggressor will be met with the devastating might of our glorious Armed Forces."

USSR DOSAAF -- successor to the traditions of the Leninist Vsevobuch [Universal Military Training] and Osoaviakhim [Society for Assistance to the Defense, Aviation and Chemical Construction of the USSR] and a reliable army and navy reserve -- is an active assistant to the Communist Party in strengthening the nation's defense capability and in military-patriotic indoctrination of working people and youth.

Today our defense Society [DOSAAF] is at an important landmark in its history. It is extensively involved in preparations for its next, Ninth All-Union Congress. Report-election meetings in primary organizations are essentially completed, rayon and city conferences are in full swing, and these will be followed -- in December 1982 and January 1983 -- by oblast and kray conferences and union republic DOSAAF congresses. The Ninth All-Union DOSAAF Congress will be held in mid-February 1983.

In the years which have passed since the Eighth DOSAAF Congress, there has occurred everywhere a strengthening of party guidance of the activities of DOSAAF organizations and there has been an increase in attention toward DOSAAF and assistance on the part of soviet and economic agencies, the Ministry of Defense, the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy, and there has occurred a strengthening of meaningful ties with Komsomol, trade unions, the Znaniye Society, with the unions of creative artists, with the press, radio, and television.

In these conditions our committees are working more purposefully and are successfully accomplishing the multilevel tasks facing the defense Society pertaining to military-patriotic indoctrination of working people, readying young people for service in the Armed Forces, dissemination of military-technical knowledge, and development of the military-applied sports -- everything which promotes increased combat efficiency of the Soviet Armed Forces, training and preparation of Soviet citizens to defend the achievements of the October Revolution.

Active participation by the Society in accomplishing tasks applying to all the people and to the entire country has strengthened to an even greater degree its popularity and image among the worker masses. Today USSR DOSAAF is one of the country's largest mass public organizations, containing 352,000 primary organizations -- more than 100 million workers, employees, kolkhoz farmers, and students.

In the years which have passed between the two congresses there has been an appreciable rise in the level of military-patriotic indoctrination of working people and youth in the heroic traditions of the party, Soviet people, and its Armed Forces; there has been an increase in dissemination and publicity of military and military-technical knowledge. The arsenal of indoctrinational means which help form in young people excellent moral-political qualities as well as other qualities essential to the Soviet serviceman has become enriched.

In the period of preparations for the 60th anniversary of establishment of the USSR and the Ninth All-Union DOSAAF Congress, there has occurred broader dissemination and publicity of Lenin's behests, the provisions of the USSR Constitution, and CPSU demands pertaining to defense of the socialist homeland. The sons and daughters of all the nationalities and ethnic groups in the USSR are participating actively in military-patriotic and mass defense activities. The mass patriotic movement under the slogan "Greet the Ninth All-Union DOSAAF Congress in a worthy manner!" is presently expanding in DOSAAF organizations.

Preparations for the congress and conduct of the report-election campaign foster further comprehensive improvement of the work done by DOSAAF organizations in light of the decisions of 26th CPSU Congress, CPSU Central Committee plenums, and the CPSU Central Committee decree entitled "On Improving Ideological and Political Indoctrination Work."

It is gratifying that the participants in the many meetings and congresses are showing serious concern about one of the most important areas in the activities of the defense Society -- preparation of young people for service in the Armed Forces. In the years which have passed since the Eighth DOSAAF Congress, the efforts of committees and training organizations have been directed chiefly toward improving the quality of training and indoctrination of future servicemen. Toward this end we have continued adding to and improving facilities -- we have increased the volume of capital construction, improved supply of new vehicles and equipment to automotive and technical schools, and have brought new training and sports facilities on-line. On the eve of the Eighth DOSAAF Congress only 45 percent of training organizations had what could truly be called good facilities, while today the figure is above 70 percent. Indicative in this respect is growth in the number of automotive and technical school motor vehicle tracks, which today play a leading role in the driver training of school enrollees. By 1981 their numbers had increased from 60 to 96 percent.

In the last 5 years there has developed a clear-cut organizational structure of training organizations, and their staff personnel have become strengthened. Sixty percent of automotive and technical school supervisory personnel are reserve officers, 92 percent possess higher and secondary technical education, while 90 percent of heads of schools are CPSU members. There has occurred a substantial improvement in the system of boosting the skill level of school production training instructors and foremen in regularly held courses and training methods conferences, and there has been an appreciable increase in the role of teachers' councils and subject commissions.

The party and government greatly appreciate the multifaceted activities of the defense Society and the labor of those who are dedicating their knowledge, experience, and enthusiasm to the cause of comprehensive preparation of young people to defend the homeland. Last year a large group of DOSAAF officials and activists were awarded Soviet decorations and medals for success in accomplishing the targets of the 10th Five-Year Plan; 120 of those receiving decorations are instructors, foremen, supervisors and other officials of DOSAAF training organizations.

Strengthened facilities, an improved level of military-patriotic and internationalist indoctrination of induction-age youth, organization and discipline in conducting training activities, and a sense of responsibility on the part of school administrators and instructors for the assigned task have had a positive effect on the quality of training specialists for the Armed Forces.

This qualitative growth is confirmed by the results of audits being carried out by commissions of the Ministry of Defense, the Central Committee of USSR DOSAAF, the military districts and military commissariats. The following figure is typical: in the 1975-1976 academic year only 35.3 percent of the schools examined received a performance rating of good, while in the 1980-1981 academic year 64.6 percent received such a performance rating, and one out of every 10 training organizations was given a mark of excellent.

A substantial contribution toward boosting the level of preparation of specialists for the army and navy has been made by the committees and training organizations in all union republics. In the harmonious fraternal family of Soviet servicemen, who are vigilantly guarding the peaceful labor of our people, boys of many dozen nationalities, who learned at DOSAAF schools technical specialties, received moral and physical conditioning, and mastered the fundamentals of military affairs, are today skillfully operating the combat equipment and vehicles which have been entrusted to their care.

The best performance figures in training specialists for the Armed Forces (according to the figures for the last academic year) were achieved by the DOSAAF committees of the Ukraine, Belorussia, Georgia, Armenia, Lithuania, the Tatar ASSR, Volgograd, Kuybyshev, Omsk, Rostov, and Tula oblasts, as well as the City of Moscow. Their example and know-how should be widely disseminated in this country's DOSAAF organizations and promote further improvement in preparing induction-age youth for military service. The task consists in ensuring that our schools turn out not simply technically trained but also ideologically firm individuals, with the requisite physical and psychological conditioning, capable of performing their duties under difficult, extreme conditions maximally approaching actual combat.

At a number of automotive and technical schools, however, the effectiveness of military-patriotic indoctrination of induction-age youth is not fully in conformity with today's demands on defenders of the homeland. We still have many training organizations at which the practical proficiency level of students is poor, and where there occur many compromises with realism and unnecessary simplifications in laboratory and practical classes, in training in the field, and in truck column driver training.

The defense Society is approaching its Ninth All-Union Congress with substantial accomplishments in training specialists for civilian jobs. People learn 60 occupational specialties which also have applied military significance at our schools, in training course, and in study groups, replenishing the ranks of skilled workers and farmers. Here are some specific figures. In the period between the Seventh and Eighth congresses a total of 8 million technical specialists were trained and retrained or additionally trained, including 4,600,000 transport vehicle drivers, while between the Eighth and the coming Ninth congresses -- the figures are 12,100,000 and 7,700,000 respectively. These are impressive figures, attesting to the large scale of activities on the part of DOSAAF organizations in accomplishing economic tasks. In the last 5 years training just of transport vehicle drivers has increased by 67 percent!

DOSAAF training organizations train half of all the drivers this country produces. In addition, each year approximately half a million professional drivers improve their level of qualifications, earning 2nd and 1st class ratings. DOSAAF also now more fully meets the requirements of private vehicle owners for formal training for the purpose of earning driver's licenses. In a number of cities, oblasts and republics this item has already been removed from the agenda -- waiting lines to enroll in courses have been eliminated, although the number of privately owned automobiles is steadily growing and now exceeds 9 million nationwide, not including 13 million motorcycles.

At the present time particular attention is being focused on further expanding work directed toward active participation by DOSAAF in carrying out the USSR Food Program. A weighty contribution to this most important nationwide task is being made by the organizations of the defense Society primarily by training technical specialists needed in our fields and livestock units. In the last five years DOSAAF has trained approximately 2 million specialists for agriculture, including 265,000 farm machinery operators -- tractor drivers and combine operators.

On the whole this is not a bad performance. In certain republics and oblasts, however, considerable improvement remains to be achieved. The attention of DOSAAF committees in the Kirghiz SSR, the Buryat and Tuva ASSR, Arkhangelsk, Vladimir, Kirov, and Chita oblasts, which are lagging behind in training agricultural specialists, should be focused precisely on this. DOSAAF committees in the Non-Chernozem zone as well as in rapidly developing areas of Siberia and the Far East should also focus their attention toward agriculture.

At conferences considerable attention is devoted to the technical, applied military sports, direction of which is handled by DOSAAF. We have clearly achieved successes here. Approximately 31 million people in this country engage in marksmanship, motorcycle, radio, motorboat, automotive, parachute, aviation, and many other sports. They have at their disposal 2710 regular technical sports clubs and 3200 technical sports clubs attached to primary organizations; we have 18 all-union federations operating, and more than 900 federations and sections in krays, republics, oblasts, and cities are assisting in the development of sports in DOSAAF on a volunteer basis.

Year by year there is occurring an increase in the scale of automotive and motorcycle competitions, which play an appreciable role in this country's sports life. And this is a logical process, since more and more people are driving cars and motorcycles. Young people are particularly drawn to automotive and motorcycle sports, and this should be given every encouragement. By engaging in the motor sports, young people become knowledgeable about these vehicles, learn to operate them skillfully, receive physical conditioning, and develop excellent moral and volitional qualities. And all this in the final analysis is an important means of preparing for highly-productive labor and defense of the homeland.

The summer sports season, which is coming to an end, has been conducted under the badge of execution of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers decree entitled "On Further Improvement in Mass Participation in Physical Culture and Sports," which particularly stresses the need to pay greater attention to the technical and applied military sports. A positive influence on their development has been exerted by the 8th Summer Sports Festival of the Peoples of the USSR, the list of competitions in which, for example, contains practically all the major automotive and motorcycle sports. Multiple automotive competition, go-cart competition, rallying, motocross, circuit-type automobile and motorcycle racing, multiple-day competitions, motoball, motorcycle track racing, and auto model building -- all these are represented in the 1982 Sports Festival competitions. Our national teams perform successfully in major international competitions. Outstanding victories by our ice motorcycle racers, our divers, sport parachutists, pilots, model builders and powerboat racers at this year's world championships constituted a sports gift from the members of DOSAAF in honor of this country's anniversary.

This area of DOSAAF activities, however, should also be critically appraised in light of the demands of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers decree and the tasks advanced at the Seventh USSR DOSAAF Central Committee Plenum, which discussed this decree. As is indicated by audit results, even today, a year after the Seventh Plenum, DOSAAF committees in a number of republics, krays and oblasts are still devoting little attention to mass sports, the path to which lies through the DOSAAF primary organizations. There is plenty of unutilized potential in this important work sector. It is the duty of DOSAAF committees, staff personnel and activists to make fuller use of these resources.

Each all-union DOSAAF congress is an important stage in the life of our multimillion-member patriotic Society. And there is no doubt whatsoever that this coming Ninth Congress, preparations for which have been in progress during an important time -- the year of the 60th anniversary of the USSR, will become a new milestone in boosting the level of the multifaceted activities of the Order of Lenin and Order of the Red Banner USSR DOSAAF, will constitute another step forward in carrying out its tasks pertaining to strengthening the economic and defense might of the USSR and our glorious Armed Forces, which are guarding the achievements of the Great October Revolution.

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PERCEPTIONS, VIEWS, COMMENTS

COMMENTARY ON U.S. ARMED FORCES

Moscow ZNAMENOSETS in Russian No 9, Sep 82 (signed to press 23 Aug 82) pp 26-27

[Article by Col P. Bushuyev: "Hatred and Hatred Alone"]

[Text] "The United States has no friends, only interests." If this statement were made by somebody other than an American, Washington's guardians of order would immediately call him "red" or even "an agent of the Kremlin." And yet this cynical statement was made, as it were, by a 100-percent American, the unfondly-remembered politician John Foster Dulles, former head of the U.S. diplomatic establishment. And this statement accurately reflects the moral essence of the "American way of life," where the dollar has been and continues to be the standard of morality. Those times have sunk into oblivion when the people who stood at the cradle of the young American republic believed that it would become a country where an ideology of worshiping the almighty dollar, which destroys human dignity, would not prevail. "Freedom is higher than property, and man is higher than the dollar," stated A. Lincoln. The dollar has become higher than man, however, in contemporary capitalist America.

America has only interests, and interest means advantage, profit, that is to say, categories for the protection of which American capital is prepared to renounce not only its friends abroad but even the needs of its own people. One should therefore not be surprised that hatred and violence have become an integral feature of the "American way of life," that the United States is correctly called a country where the "law of the gun" rules. As the Americans themselves testify, a handgun is sold in that country every 13 seconds. Half of that country's murders are committed with the handgun. Even veteran officials of the Department of Justice gasped upon calculating the figures: in the last six or seven decades approximately 750,000 persons have been killed by firearms in the United States. This is more than twice the number of Americans killed in the two world wars. Expatiations by present U.S. rulers -- a country where even presidents cannot feel safe -- about "violation of human rights" in the socialist countries is an insult to their memory.

All these facts are not mere chance phenomena. The chase after the almighty dollar is the motive force of America's socioeconomic system, and therefore it inevitably engenders violence and hatred, both against "undesirable" individuals and entire segments of the population in that country, as well as

against other peoples. The annihilation of Indians, oppression of the Negro people, racist practices toward other "nonwhites," the atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the invasion of Vietnam by the Pentagon's hordes, criminal actions committed by the U.S. military in a number of countries of Latin America -- all these are links in a single chain, to which is firmly tied the faithful watchdog of U.S. imperialism -- its armed forces. It is precisely the "GI" -- this sinister image of an American serviceman -- which has today become an embodiment of violence and hatred.

Much has been written in the foreign press about the criminal moral countenance of U.S. military personnel. Nor is the flood of reports from various parts of the world drying up, reports which add additional strokes to the true visage of the contemporary U.S. GI. The West German democratic weekly DEUTSCHE VOLKSZEITUNG comments, for example, that theft, robbery, rape, maiming, drunken debauchery, and dealing in narcotics is a far from complete list of "deeds" of U.S. soldiers stationed in the FRG. Within the period of a single year they committed more than 95,000 crimes in that country. The Japanese, South Korean, and British press as well as newspapers in many other countries on whose territory U.S. bases and troops are located are concerned over these same facts. All this of course is an external manifestation of those qualities which are formed by the notorious "American way of life" and the bourgeois military barracks, which has become a unique incubator of criminals.

Nor is this surprising. The U.S. Army is made up of mercenaries, and far from the better segment of American youth enlist in this "volunteer" army. The military periodical ARMY TIMES frankly acknowledged that in recent years "too many fugitives from society, who bear a grudge against the authorities... and who refuse to acknowledge discipline" are joining the U.S. armed forces.

New recruits who have enlisted in military service are sent for basic training to training centers (in the United States they are called recruit depots), where over the course of 11-12 weeks they are taught the habit of blind, absolute obedience. Mercilessly excessive drill, rudeness, and mockery are utilized toward this end. The principal actor in this training is the drill instructor. He forces his men to do useless work, to carry out demeaning orders and instructions, makes fun of them, treats them with disdain and crushes their spirit. The soldier is permitted to answer any question only by "yes sir" or "no sir." He is forbidden to look the sergeant in the face, and he must always stand rigidly at attention before him. In other words, as American writer W. Saroyan put it, they do everything possible to knock out of the soldier every human trait in the shortest possible time and "to transform him into anthropoid ape number such-and-such."

Physical crushing of spirit is accompanied by daily moral and psychological oppression. It is drummed into the recruit's head from morning till night that he is now "another kind of person," that he has "had the good luck" to get into the "most select army" and that he must pay for this privilege by slavish obedience, and most important -- the readiness and willingness "to kill whoever they are ordered to kill."

This system, if it can be called such, of brainwashing produces fruits which cannot please even the U.S. "hawks." Discipline is declining throughout the military. U.S. Army psychiatrists acknowledge that large-scale alcoholism among military personnel has become a serious problem. The American military authorities on the Japanese island of Okinawa were even forced to open a special rehabilitation facility for alcoholics in the military.

Another major problem in the U.S. armed forces is the almost officially acknowledged drug addiction which has stricken many GIs. According to one Army study, in the ground forces alone approximately 209,000 military personnel admitted that they had used or did use marijuana, while approximately 49,000 were using an even more powerful narcotic -- heroin.

Nor is this surprising, for even prior to enlistment almost half of the recruits had used narcotics of some kind, so that drug addicts in military uniform are a customary occurrence in the U.S. Army.

The lion's share of effort by the vast ideological influence machine on the American, especially in military uniform, goes for implanting prejudice and hatred toward the Soviet Union and the nations of the socialist community. Day and night he is flooded with a stream of "information," which sets him all atremble: "The Russians are coming," "The Russians are cutting the jugular vein supplying the United States with oil," and "Moscow wants to establish a world Communist state," and so on.

The U.S. "hawks," however, do not act by word alone. Their arsenal of weapons used against communism includes base acts of provocation and organization of extensive anti-Soviet "shows" in U.S. military units. In recent years a frankly anticommunist, anti-Soviet background has become an indispensable accompanying factor in the daily combat training of U.S. armed forces personnel.

Since 1976 the Pentagon has been conducting a U.S. flight personnel training program called "Aggressor." Its objective is "to provide more realistic training" of U.S. military personnel in combat actions against the "potential adversary." For years now provocational exercises code-named "Red Flag" have been conducted within the framework of this program in the state of Nevada. An area of Nevada desert about equal in size to Switzerland has been designated as an area in which to practice techniques of air "combat against the Communists." More than 50 separate targets have been built or set up in this area, which from above look like certain installations in the Warsaw Pact countries, such as airfields, industrial areas, storage facilities, rail-yards, tunnels, air defense missile launchers, etc. Even a "Soviet tank column" is simulated, consisting of 300 armored vehicles, and a "truck convoy stretching 17 miles."

Pentagon authorities have established two special U.S. Air Force fighter squadrons, which are presently in operation, which "for training purposes" are to simulate as faithfully as possible corresponding Soviet Air Force subunits. In order better to get into the role of "Soviet pilots," ace pilots selected for this purpose go through a special training school operating in Washington, where they are taught "to think and act in Russian" and where they

become better acquainted with "various aspects of Russian life and Communist philosophy." The members of the "Russian squadrons" must continue improving their "Russian skills"; they must study and learn, for example, what vodka Russian pilots like, what kind of a lifestyle they lead, what their professional habits are, etc.

The "Aggressor" program is not limited merely to training U.S. pilots alone. Canadian and British Air Force pilots also go through this "playacting" of rehearsing techniques of air combat against "Communist pilots."

The Pentagon has also established similar provocational "Soviet" subunits in other combat arms.

Thus the idea that the "Soviet military threat" is a real one is gradually drummed into the heads of U.S. military personnel with the aid of such techniques and "programs," and it is instilled into them that they must train constantly to repel this "threat." "Of course all this is nonsense," stated CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. "But this is not harmless nonsense; it is pernicious, for it serves as justification and camouflage for actions which are genuinely dangerous and potentially aggressive, for escalating the arms race to a new and higher level, for increasing military forces, and for saturating the international atmosphere with the poisonous fumes of fear, suspicion, and animosity."

Why are today's U.S. "hawks" so enraged? The forces standing at the helm of U.S. Government policy cannot forget those "golden days" when virtually the entire capitalist world submissively heeded Washington, when governments toppled at a wave of its wand and entire countries were turned into the property of Wall Street. Today's world, in which the aspiration of peoples for freedom, democracy and socialism is increasingly more clearly taking the upper hand, has become uncomfortable for the U.S. oligarchy. And it has become embittered against this world.

The advance of history is irreversible. We know our own forces, the forces of socialism and peace. They are incalculable.

And we shall remind those who fail to profit from the lessons of history that our people and their valiant Armed Forces are keeping their powder dry and maintaining a continuous state of combat readiness.

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PERCEPTIONS, VIEWS, COMMENTS

COMMENTARY ON U.S. MILITARY AIRCRAFT

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[Article by Col I. Korochanskiy: "Aviation in the Pentagon's Plans"; passages rendered in all capital letters printed in boldface in source]

[Text] At the end of May 1982 high-ranking White House spokesmen announced that the Pentagon had completed devising a "new U.S. military strategy," which had been given the official approval of the National Security Council, which adopted it as the "foundation of the U.S. Government's general strategy platform." This strategy, described by U.S. Secretary of Defense C. Weinberger in mid-1981 as a strategy of "direct confrontation" between the United States and the USSR on a global and regional scale, incorporates the position of the Reagan Administration on confrontation with the Soviet Union, escalation of the arms race, achievement of "clear U.S. military superiority" and reestablishment of "the leading role of the United States in the world" on this basis.

These doctrinal points are reflected in the character and thrust of the organizational development programs for all branches of the U.S. armed forces, the primary aim of which is to build up their offensive potential. This is also clearly reflected in the Pentagon's plans pertaining to military aviation.

U.S. air forces are subdivided by function and missions into strategic, tactical, military transport, and army aviation.

STRATEGIC AIR FORCES consist of the U.S. Air Force Strategic Air Command (SAC), operationally subordinate to the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The principal strategic air forces and facilities are organized into 19 bombardment wings, each of which contains from one to two bomber squadrons and one or two squadrons of tanker aircraft.

The U.S. Air Force SAC has a total of 315 B-52 heavy bombers of various modifications and 60 FB-111 medium bombers (not including 31 B-52 and 5 FB-111 bombers on active reserve). In addition, there are more than 200 B-52 bombers in storage. Strategic aviation also includes approximately 620 KC-135 and KC-10 tankers, 33 SR-71, U-2, and RC-135 strategic reconnaissance aircraft, and more than 30 EC-135A and E-4B aircraft, serving as Air Force SAC airborne command centers.

Tanker aircraft provide midair refueling for strategic bombers and reconnaissance aircraft, as well as tactical and military transport aircraft. Reconnaissance aircraft conduct continuous airborne reconnaissance, including along the borders of the Soviet Union.

Recently, in view of the points of the new U.S. military strategy ("direct confrontation") pertaining to preparing the U.S. armed forces for fighting not only a nuclear war but a protracted general conventional war, emphasis is placed on the steadily increasing importance of strategic bombers in combat operations employing only conventional weapons. Already the Pentagon is planning to use strategic bombers against surface ships (firing Harpoon antiship missiles), and for planting minefields in straits zones. Two F-52 bomber squadrons (28 aircraft) are assigned to the Rapid Deployment Forces designated for operations in the Near and Middle East.

As a strategic nuclear weapons delivery platform, each B-52G bomber (there are a total of 78 of these aircraft in SAC units including active reserve) can carry in its bomb bays 4 megaton-class aircraft bombs, while the B-52G and H [sic] (172 and 96 aircraft respectively) can carry 4 aircraft bombs and 8 SRAM offensive missiles, while FB-111s can carry 2 bombs or 2 SRAM missiles (200 kt nuclear warhead). These aircraft can also carry nuclear weapons on external hardpoints. According to figures in the foreign press, U.S. strategic bombardment aircraft are capable of putting in the air simultaneously approximately 2500 nuclear warheads, which comprises approximately one fourth of the nuclear warheads on U.S. strategic means of delivery.

The first B-52G bomber refitted to carry ALCM-B cruise missiles was placed in SAC combat-ready forces in 1981, and series production of these missiles began at a specially built production facility. According to plans, the first squadron of B-52G bombers (16 aircraft) armed with cruise missiles will assume alert-force status in December 1982. Air Force authorities plan to use these aircraft to deliver high-precision nuclear strikes virtually anywhere in the USSR, for the most part without the launch-platform aircraft coming within range of active air defense assets (the ALCM-B missile has a range of 2500 km and carries up to a 200 kt nuclear warhead). At the same time, with a mixed ordnance load (cruise missiles, SRAM attack missiles, bombs), it is also envisaged that bombers would penetrate the enemy's air defense system after releasing their cruise missiles.

In addition to arming B-52 bombers with cruise missiles, the Pentagon, in conformity with a Reagan Administration decision made in October 1981, has proceeded with the full-scale development of the new B-1B strategic bomber, which is based on the B-1 supersonic bomber, which was tested but not put into series production; this new bomber will have an unrefueled range of 10,800 km carrying a full load of ordnance. Internal payload will include 24 SRAM missiles or nuclear-warhead bombs. It will also be able to carry nuclear weapons on external hardpoints (up to 14 units). As is noted by foreign experts, the cruise-missile platform version of the B-1B bomber will be able to carry 22 or 30 ALCM-B missiles -- 14 on external hardpoints and 8 or 16 in the bomb bays.

The Pentagon plans to begin series production of B-1B bombers in 1984, with the first squadron of these aircraft (15 aircraft) to be formed in 1986, with the program of building 100 B-1Bs for 6 squadrons (a total of 90 aircraft) and establishment of an active reserve to be completed by 1988.

U.S. TACTICAL AVIATION, which on the basis of specific function and missions includes Air Force, Navy and Marine aviation units, is viewed by U.S. command authorities as the main striking force of general-purpose forces. The principal missions of tactical aviation include close air support, gaining air superiority, delivery of nuclear attacks, and sealing off combat zones. Other missions include in particular long-range radar detection, command and control of air operations, tactical air reconnaissance, electronic warfare and electronic jamming of command, control and communications, air defense suppression, as well as special and auxiliary missions.

U.S. AIR FORCE TACTICAL AVIATION consists of 36 equivalent tactical fighter wings (24 in the regular Air Force and 12 in the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve) and 23 squadrons of reconnaissance, EW and special-mission aircraft, plus approximately 140 auxiliary air squadrons in the regular Air Force and reserve components. U.S. Air Force tactical aviation totals up to 6700 fixed-wing and rotary-wing aircraft.

Regular Air Force tactical aviation is organized in four commands: Tactical Air Command (TAC) and three zone commands -- United States Air Forces in Europe, Pacific Air Forces, and Alaskan Air Command. They contain 79 squadrons of tactical fighters and attack aircraft, six tactical reconnaissance squadrons, and approximately 130 auxiliary squadrons. The regular Air Force tactical air forces total approximately 5800 aircraft, as many as one third of which are F-4, F-111, F-15, F-16 and A-10 tactical fighters and attack aircraft. More than 50 percent of tactical fighters are nuclear weapons delivery vehicles.

U.S. NAVY AND MARINE TACTICAL AVIATION includes 14 carrier wings (12 in the regular forces and 2 naval reserve), 4 Marine air wings (3 in regular forces and 1 in reserve forces), plus several shore-based patrol wings. The United States plans in the coming five years to increase the number of regular Navy carrier wings to 14.

The standard carrier wing contains approximately 90 combat fixed-wing and rotary-wing aircraft, more than half of which are attack aircraft and fighters. The Marine air wing contains up to 420 fixed-wing and rotary-wing aircraft of various types, approximately 40 percent of which are fighters and attack aircraft. The shore-based patrol wing contains 60-70 aircraft. Naval and Marine aviation totals more than 5000 fixed-wing and rotary-wing aircraft; 2630 of these are combat aircraft. The majority of carrier-based, shore-based and Marine combat aircraft are designated to carry nuclear weapons.

In 1983 replacement of F-4 fighters and A-7 attack aircraft for the latest model, the F/A-18, which comes in a fighter and attack version, will begin in Navy and Marine aviation. The Navy plans to purchase up to 1380 of these aircraft, so that by the completion of this program at the beginning of the 1990's 28 squadrons of light carrier-based attack aircraft for 14 carriers, 4 fighter

squadrons on two carriers, and 12 Marine fighter-attack squadrons will be flying the F/A-18.

U.S. ARMY AVIATION has the mission of providing fire support, providing ground forces mobility, conducting electronic warfare and reconnaissance, as well as performing other combat and support missions.

In combination with U.S. plans and practical steps to increase strategic nuclear missile potential and the combat capabilities of ground forces and naval forces, increased aggressiveness of U.S. foreign policy and military strategy, all this increases the danger that U.S. imperialism will start a war against the Soviet Union and the nations of the socialist community. Accelerated preparations by the United States and, under U.S. pressure, by the other NATO countries and Japan, of the material foundation for war demand that our country, as is emphasized by USSR Minister of Defense MSU D. F. Ustinov, "strengthen its defense capability and maintain its Armed Forces in a continuous state of combat readiness."

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PERCEPTIONS, VIEWS, COMMENTS

MAJ GEN R. SIMONYAN ON 'DIRECT CONFRONTATION'

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Sep 82 p 3

[Article by Professor and Doctor of Military Sciences Maj Gen R. Simonyan:
"Types of Wars as the Pentagon Views It: Washington's Aggressive Strategy"*)]

[Text] The strategy of "direct confrontation" is expanding the spectrum of wars which may be initiated by Washington militarist circles against the Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist community. According to Pentagon views, these wars subdivide into nuclear and conventional in relation to weaponry employed, and by scale of conduct into general and "limited."

NUCLEAR WARS [in boldface]. The theoretical basis of initiation of nuclear wars with employment of strategic weapons is the concept which is hypocritically called the concept of "active countermeasures." Officially adopted in August 1980 by then President Carter in Presidential Directive 59, it has become a most important component of the current strategy of "direct confrontation." This concept essentially boils down to multiple-variant employment of strategic offensive forces -- from so-called "limited" nuclear strikes ("limited strategic nuclear war") to massive employment of nuclear strikes against an entire aggregate of targets (general nuclear war). The latter is still viewed today as the principal means of attaining the main goal of U.S. imperialism -- the elimination of socialism, a totally adventuristic and illusory goal.

Simultaneous attack on the adversary throughout his entire territory, by delivering massive nuclear strikes on targets of the adversary's military potential, agencies of political, governmental and military authority, the most important installations of key branches of industry, transport and communications, as well as large Soviet administrative centers is considered to be the principal mode of conduct of all-out nuclear war.

As regards plans for "limited" employment of strategic offensive forces, they provide for numerous variations of nuclear strikes utilizing from several to several thousand nuclear warheads. Such strikes would be delivered against various complexes of installations on the territory of the Soviet Union and the

* Based on information in the foreign press.

nations of the socialist community, as well as in areas of so-called U.S. "vital interests," especially in the Near and Middle East. In a "limited" strategic war against the Soviet Union strikes would be delivered initially only against carefully selected military targets -- strategic missile launch silos, aircraft on the ground at airfields, command and control facilities, large troop concentrations, supply depots, and other important military targets.

The principal objective of such strikes is to destroy the military, particularly nuclear power of the USSR and to take away its capability to launch a retaliatory strike. Programs to deploy highly accurate, powerful nuclear weapons delivery systems -- MX intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs), sea-based Trident II nuclear missile systems, and strategic cruise missiles -- are subordinated precisely to these adventurist plans. These death-dealing weapons systems would comprise the first-strike arsenal.

In addition to launching a nuclear first strike, the new strategy contains points pertaining to the conduct of a protracted nuclear war -- for "several weeks or even months," and achieving "victory" in such a war. The newspaper NEW YORK TIMES states the following about this aspect of U.S. military doctrine: "Nuclear war is acknowledged as inevitable, and if such a war is initiated, the United States should possess the capability to prevail over the Soviet Union." Specified toward this objective is an aggregate of measures aimed not only at developing qualitatively new weapons but also at a sharp quantitative increase in strategic arms and at increasing the flexibility, efficiency and survivability of the armed forces command and control system.

Simultaneously with plans for "limited" use of strategic offensive forces, the strategy of "direct confrontation" provides for the conduct of regional nuclear wars. According to the schemes of the Pentagon strategists, they would be limited to specific regions, particularly the European region. President Reagan gave official confirmation of this on 17 October 1981.

U.S. strategists conceive of a "regional" nuclear war as a war in which the United States, while placing its allies under threat of attack, itself could avoid the devastating consequences of an inevitable retaliatory strike. Washington pursues precisely this aim in seeking deployment in Western Europe of U.S. intermediate-range nuclear missile weapons capable of reaching targets virtually anywhere in the European part of the Soviet Union. In this way U.S. strategists seek substantially to expand their first-strike arsenal with weapons which radically differ from ICBMs. The fact is that the flight time for a Pershing II missile to its intended target would be 5-6 minutes, not the 25-30 minutes required for an ICBM. This would engender the temptation to launch a sneak attack with these missiles, figuring that the adversary would not have time to accomplish a retaliatory missile launch before the aggressor's missiles strike. Precisely this is the basic substance and the principal danger of the Pentagon's sinister plans to deploy approximately 600 U.S. "Euromissiles" close to the borders of the Warsaw Pact nations.

Washington's concealed aim -- to "canalize" a devastating retaliatory strike into Western Europe -- is so obvious to everyone that it evoked a storm of angry indignation both in the Old World and within the United States itself.

One can judge how U.S. strategists responded to this indignation from a statement made at a meeting at the Pentagon by an official spokesman for the Department of the Navy. He stated that there is too much concern in the United States and Europe over the consequences of a nuclear war, "with the reasoning that a nuclear war allegedly means an end to the world, although in actual fact only 500 million persons will die." This is the "reasoning," if it can be called that, of the heralds of nuclear war, who are attempting to dull the vigilance of peoples, to get them used to the idea of the inevitability and acceptability of a "limited" nuclear conflagration.

CONVENTIONAL WARS [in boldface]. In addition to nuclear wars, the strategy of "direct confrontation" envisages preparation for and conduct of wars with employment solely of conventional weaponry. The initiation of such a war is grounded on the concepts of "horizontal" ("geographic") and "vertical" escalation. The essence of the former boils down to the position that in case of initiation of a conventional war in any given theater or limited area, the United States and its allies must be prepared to expand military operations with employment of conventional weapons to other theaters "where the adversary is most vulnerable."

Such a war, according to the new strategy, could encompass not only the European theater, which continues to be viewed as the principal theater of war, but also the Near, Middle, and Far East, as well as all maritime and ocean theaters. It is noted in the U.S. press that such a war could involve as many countries as were involved in World War II, in which, as we know, 61 nations took part.

During the period of the strategies of "flexible response" and "realistic deterrence," the Pentagon adhered to the concepts of "two and a half wars" and "one and a half wars." The former envisaged the possibility of conduct by the United States, together with its allies, of two major wars (one in Europe, against the USSR and the other Warsaw Pact countries, and one in Asia, against China), as well as one small war ("half-war") to crush national liberation movements in any other part of the world. In connection with the fact that Beijing moved out of the camp of "potential adversaries" into the camp of "potential allies," Washington began adhering to the second concept -- "one and a half wars," which formed the basis of U.S. planning up to the beginning of the 1980's. It set the task of possessing the capability to initiate, jointly with allies, a major war in Europe and of possessing adequate forces to conduct a "half-war" in any other region, especially in Asia or the Caribbean.

The Reagan Administration adopted a policy of preparation for conduct of a protracted general war against the USSR and its allies simultaneously in several theaters of war and theaters of military operations. Secretary of Defense Weinberger stated that the concept of "one and a half or two and a half wars" is becoming inappropriate. "The United States," he said, "should be prepared to conduct any wars in any region which is vitally important to our interests." And these interests, as he states, extend "practically to every part of the world."

Thus the Reagan Administration proposes preparing U.S. conventional forces and military-economic potential for a "protracted" military conflict on a global

scale. This policy was reflected in the program, specified for the 1980's, of radical modernization of the armed forces, increasing their strategic and tactical mobility, combat readiness, war-fighting capability, preparation to conduct extended combat operations, and buildup of the mobilization capabilities of military industry and the country as a whole.

Also connected with preparation for and conduct of conventional wars is the concept of "vertical escalation," which envisages commitment of all combat assets -- including nuclear weapons. In other words the Pentagon envisages the possibility of transitioning to the employment of nuclear weapons at any stage of a conventional war.

Setting forth their views on the character and scale of potential armed conflicts in the present era, Washington strategists -- incidentally, just as other bourgeois military theorists -- pass over the question of the socio-political essence and content of war -- a root issue in any military science. And there is a reason for this. The imperialist nations do not have the slightest desire to reveal the class, aggressive nature of the wars for which they are preparing, or their political content. In defining types of wars, they proceed only from their military-technical aspect.

At the same time the Reagan Administration is revising previous views in the direction of adopting multiple-variant plans for initiation and conduct of aggressive wars, including nuclear. All of these are aimed at achieving the global hegemonist aspirations of U.S. imperialism, and consequently they all increase the threat to world peace.

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